

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Oberland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On October 2nd, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. LOCKWOOD, a son.
On October 2nd, at Chinkiang, the wife of CHAS. A. HOWARD, of a son.
On October 3rd, to Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT R. EVERALL, Shanghai, a daughter.
On October 10th, the wife of FRANK BROWNE, of a son.
On September 30th, at Shanghai, the wife of G. GRAYRIDGE of a daughter.
On September 24th, at Siao Kan, Hupeh, to the Rev. WILSON H. and Mrs. GELLER (L.M.S.) a son.

MARRIAGES.

On September 30th, at Shanghai, FRANK DRAPER MULVEY to ETHEL MAY BLANCH.
On September 30th, at Shanghai, HEDLEY G. WHITE to ANNIE PEACOCK.

DEATHS.

On the 4th October, at 9.15 p.m., at his residence, Fungshui, the Peak, EDWARD BOWDLER, late of the Colonial Civil Service, in his 76th year.
On October 8th, at the Government Civil Hospital, FRANK JAMSETJI (broker).
On October 9th, at 5 p.m., at the Government Civil Hospital WILHELMINA, the beloved wife of CHARLES SCHUELLNBACH, of Quarry Bay, aged 75 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of 10th September arrived per the s.s. *Boon*, on Tuesday, the 8th instant; and the French Mail of September 13th arrived per the s.s. *Ernest Simons*, on Sunday, the 13th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co., are in receipt of telegraphic information from Singapore advising them that the crushing of the Rand Australian Gold Mining Co., for the past four weeks yielded 1112 ozs. gold from 5314 tons stone.

The statement of the Colony's assets and liabilities, as prepared by the Colonial Treasurer, shows the total assets to be \$1,384,668.18; the total liabilities \$26,218.82; and the balance of assets over liabilities \$1,357,946.36. This statement is prepared up to July 31st.

In reply to a telegram from Peking urging him to go up for an audience and to accept active employment again, ex-Viceroy T'ien Ch'un-hsuen has replied that he does not care to do so as he is preparing for a trip to Western countries to study the political conditions and customs of Europe and America.

Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung has proposed the creation of an Admiralty to control the proposed new Chinese Navy, independent of the Ministry of War. The proposal will very likely be sanctioned by Imperial decree. It is also stated that an officer of the rank of Admiral, who has learned his profession in some Foreign Navy, will be made Minister of Marine.

Hongkong has lost one of its oldest residents by the death of Mr. Edward Bowdler at his residence "Fungshui," the Peak, on October 4th. Deceased, who was in his 76th year, spent the greater portion of his life in the service of the Colonial Government, and is best remembered as the special engineer in charge of the Praya Reclamation Works. He retired on a pension of \$3,840 on 1st June, 1898.

By command of the Empress-Dowager Prince Ching acted as "go-between" lately to bring about the betrothal of the youngest daughter of Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung to the fourth son of Grand Councillor Yuan Shih-k'ai. His will force these two high officials to become friends *volens volens* by uniting their two families by marriage. Rivalry and jealousy have been hitherto the causes which separated these two powerful satraps.

Persons corresponding between England and Hongkong have to thank the Postal Authorities for nothing, in connection with the new reply coupons. For enclosing stamp for reply, the English and Hongkong stamps bearing the King's head should be interchangeable. Why the English correspondent should have to pay threepence for a four cent stamp, and the Hongkong man twelve cents for a penny stamp, is one of those official curiosities which no fellow can understand.

Returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 30th September, 1907, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are as under:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China ..	3,724,563	2,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Limited,	15,517,740	11,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	263,167	125,000
Total,	\$19,505,470	13,625,000

Complaints have been rife as to the smuggling of arms into China and not long ago the Hongkong Authorities were asked to assist the Chinese Government in prohibiting the importation of arms into the country. The local police have been exceptionally vigilant, and their efforts have been fairly successful, though it is safe to assert that, unless the magistrate before whom offenders are brought takes a more serious view of the offence, the illicit trade will not be so easily stopped. Last week at the Magistracy Mr. C. D. Melbourne imposed a fine of \$100 on each of two Chinese who were caught smuggling six Winchester rifles and 260 rounds of ammunition, on board the s.s. "Haitan" from a sampan. P. S. Willen effected the capture.

There was a big blaze on the harbour on Oct. 7th, when the firemen were called out to quell an outbreak which occurred on an oil junk near Stonecutters. The junk had just left the oil s.s. *Sultan van Langkat* from which she was loading when the fire was discovered, and it became necessary for the steamer to shift her quarters. It was not long before the fire float and No. 4 water boat were in attendance, and soon the junk was well filled with water, but as the burning oil went over the side and floated on the face of the water with the tide, it was found necessary to abandon pumping operations, and let the junk burn herself out, which she did in a short time. There were four men, three women and six children on board but they all escaped though not before two of the women were severely burned.

Since the French Street murder, in which it is now alleged that upwards of forty triads took part, there has been considerable unrest among members of this society and disturbances are becoming much too frequent in the Western District. We heard from an eye witness that at Shektonstui on October 6th preparations were made for a big fight, quite a number of men, armed with choppers, fighting irons and hammers, were on the ground, and the signal for battle had just been given when the West Point police intervened. They secured the weapons with which the Triads were armed, but unfortunately the law breakers made good their escape. Doubtless, however, the police, to whom all credit is due for their prompt action, are on the trail, and the next few days should bring forth news of the arrest of some of the ring-leaders.

On the 7th October the Wanchoi police discovered a Japanese named Tamikitohi (Zaki), hanging by the neck from a beam above the doorway of his residence at 14 Praya East. It appeared that he had spent some time the previous night with his neighbour, leaving his house about 9.30. Then it is thought that shortly after that he committed suicide. His preparations were complete. The rope was fastened to a beam, and stepping on a chair he slipped his head through the loop and kicked away the chair, giving himself a drop which must have brought death very quickly. To prevent his attempting to release himself he had tied his hands before taking the leap. Deceased, who was a barber, had lost all his customers who were afraid of his demented appearance and moody habits. He would sit for hours without speaking and pull the hair from his head. His assistant and maid servant left him because they could get no wages from him. The body was taken to the mortuary.

PROPOSED CHINESE POPE.

(Daily Press, 2nd October.)

The suggestion made not long ago by Hsi Yun, the Manchu Censor, for the settlement or at least the mitigation of the troubles which have so frequently arisen in connection with Roman Catholic Converts is certainly of a very unexpected character. He renews the proposal that was made some time ago that a Papal Nuncio should be sent to Peking, and goes on to suggest that a Chinese Cardinal should be appointed by the Pope to be the Head of the Chinese Roman Catholic Church and should control all matters relating to that Church in China. The proposition shows considerable study of the subject, and a clever and in some aspects a statesmanlike idea of the question regarded from the Chinese point of view. It would, looking at the matter from that side be of course very satisfactory if there were a Chinese Head to a recognised branch of the Church in China, as this would remove the cause of a good deal of the ill-feeling against Catholic Missionaries on account of their being under the control of an authority outside the Empire, while it might also have the effect of attracting many to the Roman Catholic Church, if so far as China is concerned, it could be regarded as a Chinese Institution. There is therefore something in the suggestion which it cannot be denied may seem attractive to both sides—to the Church as likely to further its work in China and to the Chinese converts and officials as likely greatly to mitigate the friction which has hitherto existed and which has so often been the cause of serious trouble. It is, however, open to much doubt whether the proposition will be entertained in any way at the Vatican, except so far possibly as the Nuncio is concerned, and this is a question which, involves many considerations of a political and diplomatic character, which may make it doubtful whether the assent of the other powers would be given to a measure which would give so preponderating an influence to the Roman Catholic as compared with other foreign Missions in China, which are the subject of Treaty regulation.

With regard, however, to the appointment of a Chinese Cardinal to be the Head of the Roman Catholic Church in China, it may well be surmised that considerable hesitation will be felt by people so well informed as the High Ecclesiastical Dignitaries at Rome, who would advise the Pope on the subject. The Chinese Cardinal suggested would of course only be Head of the Roman Church in China in a sense subordinate to the only recognised Head of that Church namely His Holiness the Pope himself; and if this were the only apparent difficulty in adopting the plan proposed, it might possibly not stand in the way—though the *Status* of the suggested Head in China would have to be very carefully defined. This would be the case even if the proposed Dignitary were European; but the gist of the proposal is evidently that he should be Chinese. The Roman Catholic Missionaries and Clergy in China, who would certainly be consulted upon the subject, are so well informed upon Chinese matters that they could not fail to point out to headquarters the serious difficulty which would arise. We may be quite sure that a Chinese Cardinal would be much more Chinese than Churchman and that if such powers as are proposed were once placed in his hands, the almost certain result would be that he would find means of making himself practically independent of the authorities above him, and would so far as China is concerned, become a kind of second Pope. Apart from this being

entirely opposed to all ecclesiastical rules, the practical effect could hardly be doubted. In an underhanded way the Chinese views of the Chinese Cardinal would be those that would be enforced most generally throughout China; and a Branch of the Hierarchy so established would in the course of time be almost certain to lead to split with Rome and the establishment of a new Church with an outward appearance of the Roman cult, but really widely diverging from it. The travesty of Christianity which was in a very short time established by the Tai Pings during their rebellion, is an illustration with what rapidity a change of this kind can be brought about. No doubt in the case at present suggested the changes would be more moderate and would come about by slower degrees; but all experience of the Chinese ways of action in a matter of this kind makes it clear that sooner or later come they would, and with this manifest danger staring them in the face, it is very unlikely that the Roman Catholic Dignitaries, who are among the shrewdest men in foreseeing contingencies either ecclesiastical or political, would adopt the suggestion made by the censor Hsi-Yun, however plausible it may at first sight appear.

INTERNATIONAL LAW OF IMMIGRATION.

(Daily Press, October 3rd.)

Does there exist any international law expressed or implied affirming the right of one nation to settle its subjects within the territories of another? Curiously, our main authority on international law, WHEATON, does not once mention the subject, though it speaks at length of the responsibilities of subjects of other states when resident in alien territory. There is an implied right for the subjects of a friendly nation to frequent the ports of another for the purposes of trade, and this presumes the right of temporary residence. Also there is an implied right of travel on the part of the subjects of a friendly state, but this is so hampered with conditions, such as passports, visas, etc. that the dependence on the will of the state of the privilege of travelling cannot be gainsaid. True, in most countries these regulations have been abrogated, but there are few, or none, where the alien resident has not to report himself from time to time to the authorities. Lately, however, the two nations hitherto of all others the most exclusive in the world have been complaining that the United States of America and the British colonies of Canada and Australia have been raising objections to their subjects settling down permanently, without permission asked or obtained, and claiming all the privileges of native born residents. We are not going to enter on the question as to the advisability or the contrary of permitting any feeling of race to enter into the discussion, but are merely concerned in the point of international law. There is we believe absolutely no precedent for the claim that the subjects of one state, however friendly may be the relations between them, are entitled by the rules or practices of international law to settle down without special permission asked and obtained in the territories of another, even if unoccupied, much less to claim to supersede its settled inhabitants. In the present stage of culture, when nations find their best interests in opening wide their doors to the alien, old prejudices have been much relaxed, and alien residents are in the majority of cases even permitted to become owners of real-estate, without the necessity of becoming naturalised. The actuating motive is not,

however, any desire to raise a privilege into an international right, which no one nation has as yet gone so far as to acknowledge, but one simply and entirely of the private advantage that may accrue to the nation granting the privilege. English and American residents in France and other continental states by the amount of money they circulate add very considerably to the financial prosperity of the countries they select as their place of residence, and we are safe in believing that were the circumstances to alter, their residence would not be looked upon in the same favourable light, and many of these privileges would be cut off. In a case of the sort neither England nor America would have any ground of complaint. Now it seems that the same rule must prevail with regard to the United States and Canada vis-à-vis with Japan and China. It is for these countries themselves to decide on what terms they are prepared to receive alien residents, unless by treaty they have agreed otherwise. If Canada or the States are convinced that the admission of Chinese or Japanese residents will be to their advantage restrictions will be knocked off automatically; if they are not convinced that the proposed legislation would be to their advantage, then the United States and Canada according to the settled rules of international practice would be quite within their rights in forbidding such settlement. Although nothing directly is said in WHEATON with regard to the international practice, indirectly it is allowed to be as stated:—"According to the judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States," the English edition goes on to say, "where without treaty, the ports of a nation are open to the public and private ships of a friendly power, whose subjects have also liberty without special licence to enter the country for business or amusement, a clear distinction was to be drawn between the rights accorded to private individuals or private trading vessels, and those accorded to public armed ships which constitute a part of the military force of the nation." Here, and in many other passages even the United States, which are prepared to grant even greater privileges to alien residents than most other countries, take care to emphasise the fact that the permission of entrance to aliens without special licence is a privilege granted and not inherent. Lately, without any reference whatever to the foreign countries whose subjects may find themselves concerned, Great Britain has been passing stringent laws as to the exclusion of undesirable aliens, and no hint is given that the country whose subjects are thus excluded has any right in international practice to interfere in what have always up to the present moment been looked upon as the sovereign rights of the excluding state. When we come to the actual practice of England and the other European Powers with regard to the opening of China and Japan, we find a slight change. It was held to be contrary to the instincts of civilised humanity that a nation should close her ports entirely to the commerce of the world. It was not in pursuance of this rule, however, that war was declared against China. China had of her own accord opened the port of Canton to foreign trade, and had she acted up to her own precepts of acting with justice toward the foreigner who trusted his life and fortune in her hands, no violence would have been used to make her amenable to foreign practice. It was her own scandalous failure to follow her own laws which enjoined justice and compassion "even to strangers" that drew down on her the punishment of England, from which all

other nations were permitted to draw the benefits of open trade. The right of residence was never mentioned in these early negotiations, and it was only as a matter of necessity, in face of the truculent action of the Chinese authorities at the ports, that it was finally made a right under treaty, and then only by slow degrees, and in consequence of continual failure on China's part to respect her often repeated promises.

A SUGGESTION.

(Daily Press, October 4th.)

The unsuccess of the search for traces of the *s.s. Sullberg*, now believed to have been lost in the last typhoon, on its way to Hong-kong, adds one more to the long list of painful mysteries of seafaring. It would have been so much more satisfactory, to the living at any rate, if there could have been discovered even the slightest clue to the actual fate of the crew of the missing ship. So many things may have happened. Survivors may have eluded the maw of the deep, if only for a time. Islands and rocks are so numerous on these coasts, that no one can say with certainty that there may not have been or be still a shipwrecked survivor or two in dire need. The fate of a helpless white man, cast ashore in an enfeebled and starving condition on some inhospitable beach, is not pleasant to contemplate. The natives are sometimes far from being Samaritans, and even in the still more likely event of there being no human beings at all to interfere with them, the white men so circumstanced would still be in evil case. We cannot doubt for a moment that the search was as thorough as was humanly possible, that it was not abandoned until there was really no hope left of rendering assistance or of ascertaining with as much certainty as possible the melancholy facts. It occurs to us that more might be done than is done, as a general rule. If news comes of actual opportunities of rescue, there is never any hesitation or delay in going to do what can be done; and never is the fate of our fellow men left in more doubt than the disturbed elements compel. We suggest, however, that the claims of humanity require more than this. Why wait until assistance is asked for, or desiderated by arriving intelligence. If after every typhoon were over, the torpedo-boats and other fast war craft in harbour were to sally forth, north, south, and east, patrolling the various routes and keeping a good look-out, it seems quite certain they would find numerous opportunities of being of use, and there would be at any rate less risk of valuable lives being thrown away in the utter loneliness that seems to have been the fate of the crew of the *Sullberg*. One day, two days, or more of exposure may be endured by hardy men clinging to bits of wreckage, but as the hours wear on, and no help appears, the will to live weakens pari passu with the advancement of physical fatigue, and exhaustion and death and total disappearance ensue where there might have been a rescue. The risk could be minimised so far as commonsense naval requirements demand, and the extra expense would be compensated for by the experience and practice gained. We submit that our ships would be better so employed than loafing in the harbour, and their officers would feel better men and fill their uniforms more worthily so occupied than junketing in society ashore. Perhaps someone in authority will at least consider the suggestion for what it may be worth.

KOREA.

(Daily Press, October 5th.)

Although in theory, it was carefully propounded from time to time that the presence of Japan in Korea was not intended to lead to annexation of the country, there has all along been very little doubt in the minds of those thoroughly acquainted with the circumstances which led up to the Russo-Japanese war, that, at its conclusion, the Korea question was bound to come to the front, and that, whatever might be wished, the only solution of it would be that Korea would fall in reality, if not in name, under the domination either of Russia or Japan or possibly (though not probably) be divided between them. At the opening of the war, it may be recollected that General KUROPATKIN, with a want of reservation somewhat noticeable on the part of a Russian diplomatist, frankly declared "Korea must be Russian." The view was of course based upon the supposition, which the sanguine General took as a certainty, that Russia would be certain to be the victor. This bird has however come back to roost in a form which may not be altogether gratifying to Russia, but which, at all events, shows that KUROPATKIN's idea was so far right that Korea was bound to fall under the sway of the party which happened to be the victor, though it turned out that that party was Japan and not Russia.

The Japanese were all along very much more guarded in their utterances, and it was not till after the war was concluded that they gave any official indication of their ideas upon the subject. It was then gradually given out that their views with regard to Korea were to take charge of it in the same way as the British had taken charge of the Soudan—and as time has progressed, it has become tolerably evident that their intention has all along been to do so *au pied de la lettre*. They are quite willing, if possible, to establish merely a species of Protectorate under which, while directed in its more important issues by Japan, Korea should still be in name, and to some extent in practice, under a Korean Government. Such a state of affairs would afford an opportunity of ascertaining the one essential fact namely whether Korea could be permitted to continue to govern itself or not, or whether it was essential for its own welfare and for the preservation of peace in the East that it should fall under the dominion of Japan. The latter event has come about far more rapidly than was at all anticipated; and there can be no question that the convention which has been recently signed has the effect of placing Korea definitely under the domination of Japan.

It is a significant indication of the feeling existing generally in Europe with respect to the Far East that a change of such far reaching importance should have been brought about without any protest on the part of European nations. There seems to have been a very general consensus of opinion that it was best to leave Japan to fulfil her natural destiny in becoming dominant in Korea; or at least that after recent events, it was useless or undesirable to oppose her. On the whole the feeling in diplomatic circles was probably one of relief that the complications which would have arisen, had it been Russia in place of Japan who had obtained possession or virtual possession of this much mis-governed country, had been escaped. There is no doubt that Russia, defective though her own system is in many respects, would have greatly improved the utterly corrupt

and effete government in Korea. All who have written upon the subject agree that in Korea a system obtained which was infinitely worse than that of China from which it had been originally derived, and that, under Korean administration, it was almost hopeless that that system could be improved. So far as Korea is concerned there can be no doubt that it would have been a blessing to the country if she had fallen under Russia; but on the whole it will be far more her benefit to be under Japan, who is infinitely better acquainted with the country and the wants and feelings of the people than it is possible for any European nation, however well informed, to be. It is also of course doubtful whether the other foreign nations having interests in the Far East could have felt satisfied with Russia's obtaining so strong a position in the East and on the Pacific as her domination over Korea could have secured to her. They might for the sake of peace have acquiesced and would in all probability have done so, but the question would still have remained and the time has undoubtedly come when foreign nations are anxious that there should be as few as possible open questions of this sort in connection with the Far East.

With Japan, the case stands differently. Even before the war she already possessed, though she wisely kept the fact to herself, the dominant position in the Far East and since the war that position has become consolidated and has in effect, though not formally, become recognised both by Europe and the United States. On the whole, therefore, the recent assertion of authority by Japan in Korea, which there can be little doubt, amounts practically to her taking over the country, may be looked upon as probably the best solution of a difficult question that could be arrived at; and judging from the acquiescence with which it has been received, this is apparently the view which has been wisely accepted in diplomatic circles.

TYPHOON SHELTER.

(Daily Press, October 7th.)

Before the new typhoon shelter, promised a year ago by Sir MATTHEW NATHAN, can be actually ready for occupation, all sorts of dreadful things may happen. It will be no comfort or help to the unfortunate boat people, next time they are driving to wreck and ruin on a lee shore, that the Government has promised to provide shelter for them as soon as possible. While the money is being arranged for, the plans being drawn and approved, and other preparations made, there is one way in which the Government can prove its good faith and make good its pledge, and that is to dredge the existing refuge at Causeway Bay. By setting coolies to work immediately with baskets, at each low tide, the authorities can secure sufficient accommodation for the small craft of the harbour to allow them to take their own time with the new refuge, and this without straining their finances. That would be a cheap and feasible way of tackling the work, and incidentally many poor people would be helped through the winter months thereby. Possibly there would be people willing to take away the excavated matter to use it as a fertiliser; if not, there should be no serious difficulty in the way of its disposal. We wonder what could have been the real reason for allowing this shelter to silt up as it has. There must have been a time when even Mrs. PARTINGTON's famous broom would have sufficed to keep the place ship-shape and useful. The suggestion has been

made, though we are disinclined to adopt it, that the ambitious reclamation scheme now apparently abandoned had something to do with it. Certainly, if the idea was to let the place develop into dry land by itself, it has come not far short of being realized. Barely half of the space is available for the refugees who go there when a typhoon is expected, and outside the breakwater a large flotilla anchors and fatalistically waits for the destruction that would be inevitable with a westerly blow. We submit that even if the new refuge were going to be ready far sooner than it is likely to be, the Causeway Bay shelter ought to be dredged. That breakwater was not constructed for nothing. Why should the expenditure be wasted, simply for lack of reasonable enterprise? The boat population of Hongkong is important in point of its numbers, and not less so in point of its usefulness to the trade and commerce of the port. The question of adequate shelter is not one merely of the duty of humanity. It is also a matter of business, in which the prosperity of the port is involved. Twelve months ago we had a taste of what it means to be deprived for even a short time of the assistance of these people. That is going to happen again, if the Government thinks that any reason is adequate for postponing these precautions. It is a matter of urgency. If a start be made now, on the simple, primitive and economical plan suggested above, we should have, by the next typhoon season, sufficient accommodation to make the absence of the new shelter a matter of comparatively small consequence, though there will always be a use for two such places. We will not try to recall the heartrending scenes of a year ago. If they and their sequelæ have already been forgotten, mere pen pictures would not avail to awaken the sense of duty. There is one point that has not been made by the Hon. Mr. Osborne and the others who share our views on this subject. Here at Hongkong the Government has been favoured by Nature with a harbour that has cost them nothing. Considering that the majority of busy harbours in the world are maintained at the cost of almost daily dredging, the Hongkong Authorities may be said to have a big reserve fund for harbour expenditure. Looked at in that way, they can well afford to make some sacrifice now, to make the harbour what it should be. They have done very little for the harbour and shipping hitherto, because they have not been called upon to do it. An immediate provision of shelter for the smaller but indispensable craft is as important as the new fire float, and more so, though that is a thing we should have had long ago, if our officials had a sense of proportion and a right view of the proper sequence of our obligations. The water population, big and important as it is, has no direct representation on the Legislative Council, as it almost seems entitled to, but perhaps the Chinese members will consider its claims and elicit its opinion. It occurs to us that the boat people would probably not refuse a special toll in case the Causeway Bay shelter were properly dredged. A toll of say half a cent a picul per night would soon recoup the cost, without being unduly burdensome, and it would also assist the police in seeing that the hospitality of the place is not abused. That, however, is a suggestion thrown out for the Government to consider, in case its financial embarrassment seem really too great for it to attempt to meet its obligations without some such assistance. With or without a toll, whether its funds be high or low, this question of typhoon shelters is of first and paramount import-

ance; and it will be not far short of a crime if another typhoon season be allowed to burst upon us without some provision.

OUR LEGISLATIVE DEBATING CLASS.

(Daily Press, October 8th.)

We believe that it was a patriot who suddenly found himself unable to answer the stern logic of an opponent in debate who fell back upon the complacent reflection, "Ah, well, we always muddle through, somehow." One gentleman lectured the legislators of Hongkong to the tune of nearly eight thousand words, and yet in all that verbal torrent it is hard for us, and probably no less so for the permanent officials, to see one floating bit of practicable advice. Some of the things they were counselled to do involved more expenditure, and it appears the government at present hardly knows how to make ends meet, for the ratepayers won't have increased taxation, the financial advisers are against a loan, and the present revenue, thanks to certain moral reformers, has become precarious. Many of the things they were told they ought not to have done were already done, so there was no health in that sort of criticism. But still the river Oratory was in spate, and adown the turgid flood came turning and atumbling a procession of 'don'ts' and 'mustn'ts' and 'shouldn'ts' and 'ought-to-be's,' until the mental eye fatigued, as the physical one does after a while of Niagara, and we turned away without any clear-cut conception of the gist of the matter, bemused with verbosity. [That is our excuse for inability to lighten the darkness.] The permanent officials were less susceptible, more hardened. Here and there they made a snatch at bits of flotsam, and handled it, and pronounced it not worth salvage, and tossed it back again, as is their wont, in their own special streams of eloquence. We can but hope, as the patriot did, that our Government will manage to muddle through. The Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY has a vein of eloquence peculiarly his own, but he wastes it. He ought to know that the most silvery tongue sounds cracked if it preaches heterodoxy among the orthodox. We remember a local Brutus who was always put up to speak when his admiring fellow townsmen foregathered, and who in graceful phrase and sonorous periods started out to tell a Volunteer assembly why he disapproved of the South African war. No one but his tailor got any benefit from that performance. So, the Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY, having in a tone of light and airy cocksureness informed the ratepayers of this Colony that they are assuredly under-taxed, gets torn to shreds by "Ratepayer," who wrote in our yesterday's issue a letter that according to public opinion so far ascertained leaves the official heretic naked and ashamed before his peers. We all want to see adequate shelter for the small craft of the harbour from typhoons. That topic was efficiently dealt with by an honourable member, concisely, tersely, as was best; and we have done our best to clinch his arguments and augment them. What else of the woful session stands out requiring treatment? That taxes are already high enough? The admission of that does not help us much "forrader." The Government wants more spending money, its constituents want all sorts of things which necessitate expenditure. In the absence of more practical and practicable counsel than was and is forthcoming, it looks to us like a case for prayer—prayer that the authorities may muddle through somehow. Is that, or is it not,

the characteristic attitude of the Hongkong public, including the ratepayers? Economy is not a bad cry in such a crisis, but the officials have a poor notion of its meaning, and the people's representatives a worse. The Hon. Mr. Osborne did mention that our ideas of public buildings were too extravagant, but then that was crying over spilt milk. We are committed to the extravagance, or to most of it. Hongkong roads are bad, and the trams have not made them better, but this is no time to clamour for costly things like wood pavements. It is the heavy initial cost which should make us, and the Hon. Mr. Hewitt, let that hare sit. The officials don't care. They want nice comfortable quarters, and they see no necessity to wait till we can better afford them. Yet at Taipo, even the Hon. Mr. Hewitt, in this stringent time, thinks "permanent buildings should be erected." There is no need so far as we can see to boggle at a few plain words. Those permanent buildings in the New Territory can wait. If the officials out there find bungalows an improper hardship, change the officials instead of the buildings. It will be cheaper. As for the shelter over Pedder's Wharf, that can well wait too, not, withstanding the Hon. Mr. Hewitt's impatience. If the present picturesque matchsheds blows down again, the loiterers and bathing parties can buy umbrellas or stay at home. It is not "a small affair," as the Hon. Mr. Hewitt called it, in the sense that it is these and numerous other small affairs that are eating up the revenue. But *cui bono*? The Hon. Mr. Hewitt ploughed much sand; why should we harrow it—or our readers? We regret the position of the Government, and of the ratepayers, and can do no more than re-utter the fervent hope that they will muddle through.

HAGUE'S SMALL VALUE.

(Daily Press, 9th October.)

It seems almost impossible to disbelieve that the Hague Conference is not destined ultimately to be of some practical use seeing that so many eminent diplomatists take part in it, and that the nations generally appear still to have unbounded faith in it. But the more that we see of it in action, the more palpable are the shortcomings which experienced statesmen at once saw must attach to any such machinery for the settlement of international disagreements. It has become evident that there are only two kinds of questions with which it has the power to deal effectively—first those of purely speculative character in which a general expression of international opinion may possibly form a guide to international feeling and action upon a future occasion, such for instance as the justifiability of throwing explosives from an airship, and secondly questions of so small a nature that it is not worth the while of the least self-respecting nation to fail of its own initiative to carry out the decision which an arbitration tribunal appointed under the rules of the Conference may decide upon. In a practical point of view but little is gained in either of these directions. Mere abstract questions, important though they may be, will, however much the contrary may be wished, be settled by a belligerent nation as it may see fit, notwithstanding any decisions on the abstract principle that may be arrived at by any outside tribunal. The only consideration which a nation once engaged in war will entertain in regard to the lengths to which it may go in offensive warfare is the question of the reprisals that it has to fear from the enemy

thus severely attacked. No abstract dictum can possibly be a guide upon the occurrence of a national emergency, and whatever principles might be agreed to at a Conference, it may be taken as certain that no nation would for a moment risk the chance of national annihilation or even serious disaster, if, when its enemy were attempting some supreme movement, it could avert it by some other movement of a supreme character, though the latter might not have the approval of the Hague or any other conference, who had dealt with it before-hand in times of peace upon merely abstract grounds. Supposing, for example, it had been possible for the Russians to destroy any serious portion of the Japanese fleet during the late war by raining explosives upon it, does any one believe that she would have hesitated to do so because the Hague Tribunal had decided that this was not a desirable mode of warfare? If such an opportunity of possibly averting complete national disaster presented itself, depend upon it, that with the passions which are of necessity aroused in war, it would be made use of. Indeed it is obvious that the failure to do so would be open to grave censure not only upon loyal and patriotic grounds, but in some instances actually upon grounds of humanity—as the disaster it might avert might be greater than the one which would occur were the desperate remedy not resorted to. Under such circumstances a commander might be excused if he adopted Midshipman Easy's principle and threw the half dead man overboard first and then came aft and argued the question. The only way to prevent this would be an agreement between all nations that they would at once combine against anyone who was guilty of such a dereliction—but does anyone believe that practical diplomatists would ever set about establishing such a principle, or that there was any likelihood of its being acted upon, should the occasion arise? The most sensible remark which has for a long time been given utterance to on the possible diminution of war is that recently made by Prince Bülow, who pointed out that this would by degrees be brought about by the increase of common interests between nations, which would make them more and more averse to incur the evils which would necessarily result to both, whatever might be the issue of the conflict.

Even with regard to minor matters, such as might fairly be hoped could be settled by international arbitration, the results are extremely disappointing. The attitude taken by Venezuela at the recent conference in supporting a proposition that no nation should resort to force merely to enforce a money claim, when Venezuela herself was in the position of having failed to pay up a miserable sum of £400,000 which had been awarded against it, shows how defective any tribunal of the kind may be even in a matter of this simple and prosaic description. This is, no doubt, an extreme instance, but it is none the less a marked illustration of the inherent weakness of the whole system.

Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung advised the Empress Dowager on Monday to retire from public affairs and have a "good rest," for as the government has its hands so full, "the Imperial health would certainly be affected by too persistent attention to the difficult problems before the Throne at the present moment." Is this a hint to her Majesty to resign the reins of Government? But in whose favour—as Chang and Yuan are both opposed to the Emperor—queries the *N.C.*, *Daily News* translator.

HONGKONG YACHTING

(Daily Press, October 10th.)

With such a fine, outspread, land-locked harbour as Hongkong has got, it was inevitable that yachting would figure prominently, if not pre-eminently, among the sports of the Colony. It has done so. There are two yacht clubs, and about thirty yachts of various types. Just at present the inwards of the stronger club are rumbling with excitement over a rather pretty disputation. The stronger club happens to be the younger club, partly by reason of the very conditions which have given rise to the trouble. The premier club, the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club, is dying of the disease of DYMS. The newer club, the Corinthian Yacht Club, is thriving on the crumbs of LAZARUS. More explicitly, luxury has proved the bane of the R. H. K. Y. C. It began with a fleet of yachts that cost no more than about \$250 each, and bit by bit, the type was altered and amended and improved until now, with perhaps some rise in the cost of labour and material, a member has to spend two thousand dollars before he can have a boat entitled to compete with those flying the R. Y. C. burgee. There are not many men who can afford that much for such a luxury, so the membership has dwindled, and the fleet has almost disappeared. The Corinthians began with the excellent and approved idea that there are plenty of keen sportsmen available provided that a reasonable check be put on the outlay. They therefore adopted a pattern for a One-Design class of boats, all of which were to be alike as far as possible in measurement, material, and cost. This idea, properly carried out, puts yacht racing on a laudable footing. Competition is not between long purses and short ones, but between brains. The keenest and most observant sailorman, theoretically, and allowing for the element of luck—acts of God, so to say—stands the best chance of winning. True sailorcraft consists in getting the best from the material in hand and from the conditions existing; but keen yachtsmen have got into the way of thinking they should be boat builders, designers, and riggers as well. To a certain extent this is a good thing. A man who thinks out possible improvements to the shape of his sail, the size of his combing, the material of his keel, and so on, is a clever and a useful man, likely to advance the sport and to succeed himself. But, and on this point we have no doubts, he is out of place in a One Design Club, unless he be sportsman enough to present his ideas to the rest of the boat-owners at the proper time for considering amendments of the standard, for general adoption and use. If he thinks of some new "dodge" or alteration and endeavours to steal a march on the others, in a One-Design class, he is going clear against the principle of the combination, and he appears more of a pot-hunter than a sportsman. In the case of the C.Y.C., it unfortunately appears that the standard was somewhat vaguely defined as to some important details, and worse still, the earlier committeemen were reprehensibly slack in ignoring sundry innovations involving departure from the principle. Suddenly awaking to the danger, as the evil grew, and they were threatened with such things as dearer materials, hollow masts and spars, and so on, the existing committee suddenly (this week) put their foot down, and forbade, until such time as a majority of the boatowners shall decide otherwise, the introduction of any more novelties. They did quite right, but by not doing it sooner, their action involves a certain amount of hardship on the innovators. One man was lucky enough to pick up a hollow mast dirt cheap

at second hand, and put it into his craft without consulting the committee. His argument was that as the One-Design specifications apply only to the hull, he was not obliged to consult anybody, and he could not be persuaded that he was not being harshly treated in having to replace it with the solid and heavier masts used by the rest. He rashly accused the majority of envy and of unsportsmanlike behaviour in depriving him of the advantage of his luck and forethought. It would have been more sportsmanlike to have bowed to the majority, and given them credit for honest intention. The curse of Suburbia, and indeed of all society, would surely penetrate even a One-Design Yacht Club, if he were allowed to persist. Every man wants to be as good as his neighbour. If No. 10 has a brass doorplate, the lady at No. 12 is unhappy till she gets one too; and one boat fitted with hollow mast and spars would set the others all striving for similar luxuries, which cost, by the way, when purchased new, more than the total cost of the present type of boat complete. The conclusion of the matter is not hidden; it would involve the conclusion of the Club. The C.Y.C., at present strong and flourishing, and breeding good sailors, would before long become as moribund as its forerunner, the R. H. K. Y. C. Those who want to experiment, and are prepared to demonstrate their superior knowledge at extra cost, can always enter for the handicap class, where there is absolutely no limit to originality and invention. But those who want a big fleet of One-Design boats, encouraging more men to take up the sport, and to keep alive the cunning that made Britannia the ruler of the waves, should work loyally together, observing the spirit rather than the letter of the rules that are meant to put competing helmsmen on a fair level at starting. As it is, there is much room for improvement. Fully half the men who sport yachting caps know nothing of knotting and splicing; many of them go aboard and depend upon the China-boy to make all shipshape for the cruise, and leave him to do the same when lying-up. The object of such Clubs should be, not to encourage yachtsmen of the LIPTON type, but to make sailors and handy men; not to provide trophies and excitement for pot-hunters and gamblers, but to inculcate a love of the sea and a thorough acquaintance with the wonders and glories that mean so much in the lives of them that go down to the sea in ships. After all, if two boats be caught in a squall off Cape D'Aguilar, it is not the skipper with the best filled purse who shows up better, but the man who has been trained to cope with an emergency requiring quickness of eye and brain and hand, which, to be sure, may be acquired as well in a four-hundred-dollar boat as in a yacht costing ten times as much.

MASTERY OF THE PACIFIC.

(Daily Press, 11th October.)

There is a certain class of topics which when once started either in diplomatic circles or the Press are certain to be grossly exaggerated, and to be insisted upon as important long after the original exaggeration has been fully exposed. Needless to say this characteristic is usually found among subjects which afford a good opening for some popular catch-word. Free Trade, Free Labour, Free breakfast tables—anything in fact that may be called Free—are among the salient examples at home; while abroad, "perils" are especially popular as subjects for discussion and vaticination. We have Yellow perils and black perils—

and it may be presumed, as time goes on we shall have perils of every shade between the two. The Yellow peril, though becoming feeble of late, dies very hard and we shall probably not hear the last of it for many years yet. Then there is the peril of Japanese supremacy in the East, as though it were not absolutely necessary that there should be some dominant power in these parts to assist in maintaining reasonable relations with the countries with which foreign nations have to deal and with which upon the whole European nations have shown themselves, very little able to deal effectively.

The latest "peril" which has attracted attention and formed the subject of innumerable disquisitions is that of the domination of the Pacific. The idea was started by Russia before the recent war with Japan and was emphasised by the Emperor of Germany to the Tsar in the well known message in which "The admiral of the Atlantic" congratulated the "Admiral of the Pacific." Russia cannot at the present day at least be looked upon as the dominant power in the Pacific, though it would be a mistake to imagine that, notwithstanding all her disasters, she has altogether abandoned her aspirations in that direction—and that the time may not come when she may try once more to assert them though no doubt in some less emphatic manner than in going to war with Japan or any other strong power. In the meantime the idea has been set about that there is certain to be great rivalry between Japan and the United States for what is termed the mastery of the Pacific. The subject is a good one for academic discussion. Japan has just succeeded in virtually establishing herself in Korea; and the United States are established in Manila—*ergo*, it is assumed these two nations must be regarded as competitors for domination in the Pacific. This is really about the sum total of any substantial arguments that can be advanced on the subject, but it is quite enough to afford a good subject for effusive writers and nervous diplomatists. The simplicity of the theme commends it to the public who love a simple issue, and have a strong dislike to modifying facts that may stand between their major premises and their conclusions. But can any one who is moderately acquainted with the actual circumstances seriously believe that there is ever likely to be any danger of such a rivalry between Japan and the United States for domination in the Pacific as might lead to hostilities between the two nations? When writers of the kind above indicated deal with the subject they seem to look upon the Pacific as if it were some small but important territorial possession like Belgium. The Pacific is a tolerably large Ocean and it would tax either Japan or even the United States pretty heavily to obtain a "command" of it, in the same way, for instance, as Great Britain is supposed (let us hope correctly) to have command of the English Channel. It is a grand idea suitable for Kaisers and Tsars, but one which diminishes very much in importance when the real facts connected with it are looked into with any critical attention. It will tax the resources of a very great nation with a very determined purpose to make any attempt to command the Pacific. Japan is far too well advised to do anything which the most apprehensive of persons could fairly construe into an act of the kind, and the experience of the United States in Manila is not so encouraging as to make that country desirous to extend her responsibilities in that direction. On the contrary the trouble and expense they have had is much more likely to cause a reversion to

their old policy of devoting themselves to the development of their own splendid territory and accepting as little responsibility in distant parts as may be possible.

No doubt both Japan and the United States will be on the alert, just as other nations are, to preserve their interests both in the Far East and in the Pacific and there may occasionally be conflicts of interests and at times somewhat acute rivalries, but such matters are susceptible of adjustment between nations possessed of common sense. It is not to be forgotten also that no nation has been on more friendly terms with Japan than America, nor has any nation done more for the last half century to preserve the peace in the Far East than the United States. The idea, therefore, that a rivalry for so vague an object as what is termed the domination of the Pacific is likely to become a subject of acute antagonism may when the question is considered in the light of actual facts instead of somewhat high-flown theory, be dismissed as one outside the sphere of practical politics at all events for many long years to come.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Continued from last week.)

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the Bill be read a second time and referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC NOTARIES ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I beg to move the second reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the appointment of Public Notaries within the Colony." The Bill is a very simple one. At the present time, Sir, no solicitor can be admitted as a notary public locally. It is necessary he should send home affidavits, paying fees for admission as a notary in England. This Bill makes provision for the appointments of local notaries public, and is based on the general precedent prevailing in other colonies. In the Colony where I was previously, in the Bahama Islands, they had a similar Bill, and there is one on the same lines in existence in Fiji and I believe in several other colonies. The Bill provides, authorises, and gives the Government power under its hand and seal to admit any person as a notary public admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of this Colony. It requires that he shall make the necessary declaration in precisely similar form to that required of any notary appointed under the Imperial law at home, when subject to the payment of a certain fee he is enrolled as a notary public of the Supreme Court.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion.

Hon. Mr. HEWITT—Sir, I think it advisable to say a few words on this subject although I am entirely in sympathy with the Bill. When the draft was placed before this Council I found that some professional gentlemen would be affected by this Bill, and took very strong exception to it. I received a number of letters on the subject, particularly from one number of the profession. I went very carefully into the whole question and consulted several solicitors, men of large experience in the Colony, and I found that, although a few were opposed to it, the majority were strongly in favour of it. Several arguments against it were brought forward, and one which to my mind appeared to have some weight was, that according to the rules at home nobody could become a notary public unless he was admitted by the faculties at home. I found that there was absolutely no ground at all for this objection, and it has already been explained by the Hon. Attorney-General that similar Bills have existed in many colonies for many years. I cannot suppose that any objection would be raised to a gentleman acting as a notary public under a local ordinance. I merely make these remarks so that it will not be supposed that the unofficial members allowed the Bill to be passed without considera-

tion when we know a small proportion of the solicitors in the Colony objected to the passing of the Bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I will move on a future date that the Council go into committee on the Bill.

SEDITIONS PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I rise to move the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to prevent the Publication of Seditious Matter." There has been an amount of seditious matter published in this Colony for some time past, which in the opinion of the Government may have the effect of inciting to crime in China, and the object of this Bill, Sir, is to prevent Hongkong becoming a place where seditious pamphlets may be printed and circulated with a view to distribution in China. Now, Sir, the Bill is a simple one, based upon precedent. It is based upon an Order in Council framed at home in reference to China and Korea. You will observe that the subject has created a good deal of criticism, but as a matter of fact the phraseology of the Bill was not drafted by me. It is possible that the words in the Bill may be regarded as somewhat too general, and it may be considered as proving hostile to the criticism of the Press here against the action of the Chinese Government. Such is not its intention. The intention of the Government is to prevent this Colony being made a centre for seditious publications. That being so, when the Council permit the Bill to go into committee, I shall move that we eliminate all the words after "China" in the fifth line, which read, "or to excite enmity between His Majesty's subjects and the Government of China, or between that Government and its subjects." We are of opinion that the Bill will have the necessary effect without the insertion of those words. In addition to that, Sir, the two hon. gentlemen who represent in this Council the Chinese community suggested it might be desirable that there should be a short preamble inserted in the Bill to explain its provision. I had an opportunity to-day to confer with the hon. and learned gentleman opposite, and, I think, we have between us prepared a short preamble which will be of some assistance and satisfaction. At any rate it meets with the approval of my hon. friend opposite, and I believe the hon. gentleman on my left.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In seconding the motion I would mention that for some years past the incontinence of the native press in this Colony towards the reigning dynasty in China has been a serious source of embarrassment. Only the other day, Sir, a publication was distributed in this Colony in which were represented some of China's leading statesmen sitting with their heads in their hands, and I hold in my hand, Sir, a paper which only reached me within the last five minutes, being a translation of an article which appeared in a Chinese newspaper a few days ago, in which the following passage occurred—"I am now restlessly trying to follow the heroic name of Ng San-cheung." That was the man who started the Taiping Rebellion to overthrow the Ching dynasty and place the Ming dynasty on the throne. The Ching dynasty, as gentlemen well know, is the old name of the Manchu dynasty, and Ming is the name of the former Chinese dynasty. That is nothing more or less than inciting persons to deliberate rebellion against the great and friendly empire which lies so close to our border. I think Sir, I need not add anything more in justification of this Bill.

The Bill was then read a second time, and Council went into committee to consider it clause by clause.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I would like to ask does this apply to newspapers printed in other than the Chinese language?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes, Sir. It would be impossible to make any distinction if you are going to place a ban on seditious publications it would be clearly impossible to limit it to that language. The real object of it is to affect publications chiefly Chinese, but at the same time it would be quite impracticable to draw any distinction between languages.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—If a newspaper printed in English publishes an article on political life in China it might be considered as calculated to incite tumult, and yet it might be bona fide criticism.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I think the words omitted would meet the arguments you put forward. Legitimate criticism would hardly come within this section.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Would it be for a jury to decide whether it was calculated to incite tumult?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It would be a case to be tried by a jury.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—It would not be in the discretion of a police magistrate?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Certainly not. The police magistrate has not summary powers.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—It is a rather dangerous Bill to pass into law if it is at all likely to be wrongly interpreted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You must admit the necessity for it.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I think it would be sufficient if it referred to publications in the Chinese language.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—That is class legislation. Council then resumed, and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee with two amendments.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Local Communities Ordinance, 1899." The need for the amendment of this law has arisen owing to some malicious damage that has been done to property in the New Territories, chiefly through spite. The principal law, No. 7 of 1899, Section 29, gives the Governor power to levy a contribution on the inhabitants of a district where any extreme crime required the provision of extra police, and the section as it formerly read contained provision for the levying of an additional rate in any district where there was an undue prevalence of crime necessitating an increase of police. It is therefore proposed to alter the former law somewhat, and insert the words "or any tumult or disorder has taken place." If the section is amended as we propose, it gives discretionary power to the Governor to increase the police in the district, and makes the district liable for the additional rate in the same manner as it would be under the law at present. It is proposed to pass it in the interests of law and order.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion, and the Bill was read a second time.

Council then went into committee on the Bill, and considered it clause by clause, and on resuming the ATTORNEY-GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee with practically no amendments.

The Bill was then read a third time, passed, and became law.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—With regard to the other Bills on the agenda, I would ask that they be allowed to stand over for the present.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council stands adjourned until the 10th instant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was, then held—the Colonial Secretary presiding. The committee considered the Supply Bill clause by clause, and passed the following votes:—

DESPATCH BOXES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of One thousand six hundred and eighty Dollars (\$1,680) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, Fire Brigades, — Special Expenditure, Despatch Boxes.

TYTAM TUK SCHEME.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of forty thousand two hundred and thirty-two dollars (\$40,232) in aid of the vote Public Works Extraordinary, Water Works, Tytam Tuk Scheme, First Section.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 10th instant in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. BROADWOOD, C.B., A.C.D., General Officer Commanding the Troops.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, (Colonial Secretary),

Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES, (Attorney-General)

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON, (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Commander BASIL R. H. TAYLOR, R.N., (Harbour Master).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. H. KESWICK.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Before proceeding with the business, under the standing orders it is necessary to appoint the standing committees for the year.

Finance Committee—All the members except myself, with the Colonial Secretary as chairman.

Law Committee—The Attorney-General as chairman and the former members, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock and the Hon. the Harbour Master.

The Public Works Committee remains without change—The Hon. Director of Public Works, Chairman, the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, Hon. Mr. Osborne and Hon. Mr. Keswick.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes 48 and 49 and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H.E. the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee No. 9 and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I move the second reading of the Bill to Amend the Law Relating to Companies. Now Sir, the object of the Bill is set forth in the preamble. Companies registered under the Ordinance of 1865 are required to keep a register of members.

Under this Bill the Governor-in-Council is empowered to grant a license relieving a company from keeping its register at the registered office in Hongkong. In such case the register kept hitherto presumably at the head office of the company is to be regarded as the register kept under the Companies Ordinance 1865. I may say, Sir, that the Bill has received the full consideration of the Chamber of Commerce at Hongkong and also of the authorities representing the various companies in Shanghai which will be primarily interested in the proposal. Representations have been forwarded to the Government from the representatives of the various Shanghai companies, and they approved in general all the proposals contained in the Bill. There were, Sir, two or three amendments proposed by the representatives of the Shanghai companies, and they were submitted for the consideration of the Government, which has approved of all these amendments. Two out of three were incorporated in the Bill and in reference to the third amendment the Government approved of it in a modified form. The amendments proposed by the representatives of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce were considered in regard to clause 4 of the Bill, where it is proposed that a fee of four cents for every \$100 of the nominal capital of the company should be paid in respect of the license issued under the Ordinance. It was suggested that instead of "nominal capital" it should be "paid up capital." We are of opinion that that was a practical proposal and the Government amended it accordingly. In clause 4, sub-section 8 (b) the question of domicile was raised and in regard to stamp duties, it was suggested in the bill as originally drafted in clause 4, sub-section 8 (b) the words "domicile also where than in the Colony," should be eliminated. The reasons for this, which I think are unnecessary to recapitulate, appear to be sufficient. The Government eliminated

these words. The only other amendment was in clause 6, sub-section 1, which requires that in the event of a company not having obtained a license it shall be struck off the register if it fails to comply with the Ordinance after the expiration of one month. The proposal from Shanghai was that the time of expiration of notice should be three months instead of one. The Government has met them half way and suggested that a notice of two months would be sufficient. The Bill is non-controversial and I trust the Council will approve. I move that the Bill be read a second time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Sir, after the explanation made by the Hon. Attorney-General it is unnecessary for me to say anything. He explained to the Council that the question had been referred to Shanghai, and the Bill as it now stands in its altered form with one slight alteration, has been accepted by the Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai and Hongkong. With regard to section 6, sub-section 1, I wish to make a slight suggestion which, I trust, we will be enabled to deal with in the committee stage of the Bill.

The Bill was then read a second time. Council went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause, and the Attorney-General intimated he would consider the point raised by the Hon. Mr. Hewett and, if necessary, recommit the Bill.

EXPOSURE IN THE STOCKS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I rise to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to limit the imposition by public exposure in the stocks. I need not expatiate on this Bill at any length. It has been thought that punishment inflicted in the stocks has in some cases taken rather an exaggerated form. Having regard to representations in the matter it is desirable that in future punishment should be limited to cases where an offence is punishable by imprisonment. The Bill is introduced with that object.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Hon. Mr. KESWICK—I wish, Sir, to oppose this Bill because I feel it is being rushed on us. You will pardon me, Your Excellency, if I call your attention to the fact that you have only recently arrived here, and have not had opportunity of studying the conditions under which we live and the conditions of crime and the status of the people who commit crimes and incommode us here. The Hon. Attorney-General has also but recently arrived. I cannot but feel that we are being rushed on this Bill by a small section of the Chinese community here who evidently have control of one of the morning papers and who, having acquired a certain amount of Western knowledge and learning, consider the exposure of their fellow countrymen in the stocks is a reflection upon themselves. They, however, entirely forget that we are absolutely next door to China, and that a man only requires twenty minutes to get over the border. The people who are punished by stocks are not the enlightened gentlemen of the Chinese nation who are a credit to any nation under the sun, but rogues and vagabonds who so freely come across here. I think in dealing with men of that type we have to consider the conditions under which they themselves live in their own country. In their own country torture is one of the smallest things they have to suffer. I need not expatiate on the various punishments imposed on malefactors in China. They are well known to us all. I wish to draw your attention to the experience of Shanghai. There the bamboo, the cangue and the stocks were abolished inside the Settlement, although outside these methods of punishment and torture and other methods were freely in vogue. There, instead of twenty minutes to get over the border it takes at the utmost ten. What was the consequence of the removal of these methods of punishment? The consequence was that crime increased by leaps and bounds, and the prisons were soon full, showing that two or three days in the municipal gaol was no deterrent whatever. These things, Sir, I think, should be considered very carefully by all members of the Council before voting for the Bill now before them. I have the greatest admiration for our Chinese fellow subjects who have emancipated themselves from the old style which obtains across

the border, but I maintain that if they studied the best interests of their nationals they would, instead of trying to mitigate the forms of punishment, assist you, Sir, and all concerned in the Government, in making it absolutely plain in a most effective way as regards rogues and vagabonds that we have no place for them (applause.)

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—Sir, I did not intend to speak on this Bill but I think after the remarks of the hon. gentleman opposite a few words from me are necessary. I do not think the hon. member could have studied the Bill. This Bill is not to take the punishment by means of stocks away altogether from the statute. It simply limits that punishment to certain crimes—crimes which ought to be punished by some effective punishment; crimes like larceny, robbery, returning from banishment and others. So-called municipal crimes, crimes which are created by law for good order in the place, such as obstruction, hawking without licenses and so on, are crimes which, we think, ought not to be punishable by stocks. The hon. gentleman was also under a misapprehension. It is not only a small section of the Chinese community who advocate the bill. I may say the great majority of the Chinese are in favour of it. I quite admit there were some who wished to go further, but the majority of the Chinese thought a bill such as the one before the Council would be suitable. I am sure there need be no misapprehension that, if the Bill is passed, crime will be on the increase, because the more serious crimes are still punishable by stocks. If thought necessary by the magistrates. If the imposition of stocks were made more universal, to apply not only to Chinese but others as well, it would take away a great deal of the opposition of the majority of the Chinese to this mode of punishment.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I think the hon. gentleman opposite has correctly interpreted the effect of the Bill. I have here returned showing the number of prisoners sentenced to stocks in the year 1906, and I find that all serious offences would still be punishable by stocks assuming this bill is passed. The particular offences not punishable by stocks are in the main offences of a minor degree. For instance under the Licensing Ordinance stocks were imposed during the year 1906. That would no longer apply. Then there are two cases under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance. They would no longer apply. Neither would a number of police offences. All the more serious offences, however, appear still to be retained, and I do not think my hon. friend at the end of the table need have any great apprehension that crime would be increased by the proposed depreciation of the punishment.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, As one who had the duty of maintaining law and order in the Colony for nine years, I have no hesitation in saying I do not think the Bill will in any way weaken the hands of the authorities in suppressing crime—what may be legitimately called crime.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The hon. gentleman at the end of the table said I had not been long in the Colony. That is very true, but I have been here long enough to give very careful consideration to this Bill which is of exceptional interest. I was particularly struck in studying the papers by the argument that if punishment by stocks was made too common, law-abiding people like the Chinese would cease to be able to recognise criminals whom public opinion really condemned. I think that is a very strong argument, gentlemen. In such a case, when law-abiding citizens went down the street and saw any prisoner in the stocks, they would recognise his features and could at any time afterwards take measures of precaution against him. If on the other hand the person is put in the stocks for petty offences such for instance as hawking, or some of the others to which the Attorney-General alluded, we will cease to carry with us the public opinion of the large majority of the lower class Chinese. I think that is a very important point. Beyond that remark I have nothing further to say than what was said by the Attorney-General, that the Bill in no way weakens the hands of the Government or detracts from our power to impose a penalty in accordance with tradition and with the law of the Colony for many years past (applause).

The Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into committee to consider it clause by clause.

On resuming, the ATTORNEY GENERAL reported that the Bill had passed through committee without amendment and moved that the read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the bill was read a third time, passed and became law.

THE ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that Council resolve itself into a committee of the whole council to consider the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Four million nine hundred and ninety-two thousand nine hundred and fifty-three Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1908.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and Council went into committee.

On resuming, the COLONIAL SECRETARY reported that the Bill had passed through the committee without amendment, and moved that it be read a third time.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and became law.

PUBLIC NOTARIES ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—With regard to the next order of the day, Sir, I do not propose to move that Council go into committee on the Bill relating to the appointment of notaries.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—If your Excellency will permit me, although I am not in order, I would like now, as I am leaving next week for North China, to bring to the notice of the Council certain facts which I have been asked to bring forward. As they are of a somewhat technical nature I will, with your Excellency's permission, read some extracts from the letter addressed to me—"In England only those persons who have served articles for five years, in London for seven years, to a notary public are themselves appointed notaries."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—On a point of order. I have not moved the second reading of the Bill and it would not be open for me to reply to any observations of the hon. gentleman. I would therefore suggest to him that he reserves any observations on the Bill he wishes to make until I am ready to move the second reading.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—I understood the second reading had been moved.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The second reading was postponed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think if the hon. member were to forward the letter he has received, it would receive every consideration.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE.—Yes, Sir.

SEDITIONOUS PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Before moving the third reading of the Bill to prevent the publication of seditious matter, I would ask that the Bill be recommitted in regard to a very simple matter. It will be within the recollection of the Council that the hon. gentleman opposite addressed a question to me as to whether a magistrate would have power to deal summarily with the penal clause of the Bill. I expressed the opinion at that time, and I still adhere to it, that a magistrate would not have power to deal summarily with a prisoner. I did so having regard to Ordinance 3 of 1890, which enumerates in the schedule the list of offences excluded from summary jurisdiction, and mentions the printing or publishing of blasphemous, seditious or defamatory libels. This Bill is to prevent the publication of seditious matter, and when I gave the answer which I did to the hon. gentleman, I was of the opinion that it would be excluded from the summary jurisdiction of the magistrate, but it is just possible that other people may take a different view, that some one may construe the law differently to what I do, and as it is the desire of the Government that all these offences should not be dealt with summarily, I ask the permission of the Council to move the recommitment of the Bill in order to insert the express words, providing that the offence shall only be dealt with by the Supreme Court.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the following new clause:—"No person shall be convicted of an offence against this Ordinance, except by the Supreme Court."

This was agreed to, and on Council resuming the Bill was read a third time, passed and became law.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council stands adjourned until Thursday, 24th instant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held—the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE REPAIRS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Miscellaneous, Hot water apparatus and baths, Government House.

EVENING CLASSES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of seven thousand three hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$7,336) in aid of the vote, Education, Department of Inspector of Schools—Other Charges, Evening Continuation Classes.

THE COLONY'S FINANCES.

The current *Gazette* contains a comparative statement of the Colony's revenue and expenditure for the period ended July 31st, 1907. Under the heading of revenue the total amount estimated to be received for the year, exclusive of land sales, was \$6,148,025.00, while the actual revenue to July 31st amounts to \$3,913,040.17, as against \$3,933,413.49 for the same period of the preceding year. Land sales for the year are expected to swell the revenue by \$300,000.00. To July 31st the amount realised from this source was \$103,364.47, an increase of \$52,061.83 on the sales for the same period of the preceding year. Taking the separate items shown under the head of revenue, we find that the increase on light dues was \$798.34; on fees of court or office, payments for specific purposes, and reimbursements in aid \$18,022.15; on the Post Office \$25,763.42; and on interest \$20,983.20. Licences and internal revenue not otherwise specified, showed a decrease of \$44,728.10, while there were decreases of \$40,021.65 on rent of Government property, land and houses, and \$1,190.68 on miscellaneous receipts. Turning to the heading of expenditure, and including the amount set apart for public works extraordinary, the estimated expenditure for the year is set down as \$6,431,740.00. The actual amount expended to July 31st was \$3,334,588.25, as against an expenditure for the same period of the previous year of \$3,858,573.95. The decrease on the amount expended on public works extraordinary was \$571,860.46, while the other principal decreases shown are \$41,149.38 on military expenditure; \$10,324.14 on Judicial and Legal Departments; \$8,785.92 on pensions; and \$2,731.72, charge on account of public debt. Of more numerous estimates on which increases are shown, the principal are \$71,608.00 on the Public Works Department and public works recurrent; \$17,364.31 on education, \$14,302.03 on the Police and Prison Departments, \$4,454.62 on the Medical Departments; and \$2,243.26 on the Treasury.

ADMISSION OF A SOLICITOR.

At the Supreme Court on October 7th before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, the Attorney-General, Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, moved for the admission of Mr. Charles Bulmer Johnson as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Hongkong. In doing so he remarked that Mr. C. B. Johnson was a nephew of Mr. A. B. Johnson who was Crown Solicitor of the Colony for some fifteen years, and also a cousin of Mr. Bowley, the present Crown Solicitor. He had lived in England all his life, and was articled in London.

His Lordship said he had much pleasure in admitting Mr. Johnson to the ranks of the solicitors of Hongkong, and wished him every success in the future. Mr. Johnson's was a name well-known among legal practitioners here in years gone by, and his Lordship felt sure that its reputation would not suffer in the hands of the present holder.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

Patrons:—His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O. His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur W. Moore, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., C.M.G.; His Excellency Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C.B.; Commodore R. H. F. Stokes, R.N.

Committee:—The Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club, (Ex-Officio). The Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., Major Parker, Messrs. C. H. Ross, H. P. White, G. K. Hall Brutton, D. MacDonald, and Captain Thompson.

Judge:—Mr. C. H. Ross.

Handicapper:—Major Parker.

Clerk of Scales:—Mr. H. P. White.

Starter:—Major Parker.

2nd Starter:—Mr. J. Paterson.

Time Keeper:—T. S. Forrest.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer:—Mr. R. F. C. Master.

Excellent weather favoured the fifth and last meeting of the Hongkong Gymkhana Club on October 5th at Happy Valley, and needless to say, it was as successful as the best of its predecessors. There was a good attendance which included many ladies. The card embraced seven events, and they afforded some good sport. H.E. the Governor and Lady Lugard accompanied by Captain Ogle, A.D.C., and M. A. J. Brackenbury, arrived about the middle of the programme and were welcomed with the usual heartiness, the band of the 3rd Middlesex Regiment, which was in attendance during the afternoon, playing the National Anthem. Fortunately there were no accidents to mar the afternoon's pleasure, though Mr. Jordan, who rode for the first time at these meetings, was thrown by his mount, but as it was one which none of the other riders favoured, it was probably the expected which happened in this case. Results are appended.

1.—3.09 p.m. GYMKHANA CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.—Distance one mile. For all China Ponies. Catch weights at 10 st. 6 lb. Winners of an open race or open Griffin race 5 lb. extra. Non-winning Subscription Griffins allowed 5 lb. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. To be won by the pony scoring most marks in the races for the cup, counting 4 points for a first; 2 for a second; and 1 for a third. The benefit of marks already scored to pass with the pony on a sale. Any winner of the race to carry 5 lb. extra for each win in subsequent starts for the Cup, but in the event of a pony carrying the penalty not winning, 2 lb. to be deducted next time he starts. Penalties accumulative up to 15 lb. Entrance fee of \$5 to go in the purchase of a memento to the winner of each race, and \$25 to second pony out of the Club funds. At the conclusion of the season a cup will be presented by Commodore R. H. F. Stokes, R.N., to the owner of the pony obtaining the second highest number of marks.

Mr. Godfrey Master's Blue Nile, 159 lb.

(Owner) 1

Mr. Godfrey Master's Astral, 146 lb.

(Mr. R. F. C. Master) 2

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 119 lb.

(Mr. Dupree) 3

A very good race ensued despite there were only three starters. Coxcomb took the lead at the start, but had to give way at the bend to Blue Nile who made the running all the way with Astral challenging. Time 2.10 2/5. Pari-mutuel \$7.40. Cash sweeps 1st \$141.75; 2nd \$40.50 3rd \$20.25. A protest was lodged by the rider of Coxcomb that he had been fouled by Blue Nile, but the protest was overruled, and the cup therefore went to Blue Nile.

2.—3.20 p.m.—ONCE ROUND FLAT RACE.—For China Ponies which have run and not won at Gymkhana meetings this season. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins 1906-07 allowed 7 lb. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance fee \$5. 1st Prize A Cup presented. 2nd Prize: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)

Mr. E. Kadoorie's Manchurian Chief, 152 lb.

(Mr. W. G. Clarke) 1

Mr. Medico's, Nigel, 142 lb. (Mr. Dupree) 2

Mr. M. W. Slade's Zapeter, 155 lb.

(Mr. Gegg) 3

Mr. Brutton's Kingston, 152 lb.

(Mr. Brutton) 0

Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin's No Wanchee ...

145 lb. (Mr. R. F. C. Master) 0

Mr. A. Morfey's Southdown, 129 lb. (owner) 0

Mr. Robert's Velocity, 152 lb. (owner) ... 0

No Wanchee went ahead at the start with the field bunched behind. Past the bend Septima joined and they ran in partnership till going up the hill, when Manchurian Chief, who had been at their heels all the way passed through into first position. Nigel now made a claim at the village and strove hard to pass the leader. The pair ran neck and neck down the straight, but Chief was first at the post. Time 1.58-1/5. Pari-mutuel, \$19.50; sweeps, 1st \$362.25; 2nd \$103.50; 3rd \$51.72.

3.—3.40 p.m.—LADIES' NOMINATION RACE.—

Gentlemen to start dismounted at a given point. On the word "go" mount and ride over a paper "water" jump to their Nominatrices who will in the meantime have been given hats to trim. Gentlemen will dismount shortly before reaching their nominatrices. When hats are trimmed ladies will assist gentlemen to put them on. Gentlemen will then mount and ride home over a course which will be indicated and which will include a paper hurdle and through a screen. Hats and trimming will be provided by the Club. Time limit for hat trimming 4 minutes. Points for pace and hat trimming. Hats must be worn when passing winning post and if dropped or knocked off en route must be picked up. Any competitor backing or sidling his pony over or through any obstacle will be disqualified. Entrance fee \$3. First and second prizes presented by the Club. No whips or spurs allowed. Ladies are requested to provide their own needles and cotton. Post Entries. This event provided no little amusement.

The ladies regarded the millinery pidgin as a joke and took up their appointed tasks amid sounds of hilarity. The riders made a brave start but getting through the hurdle and crossing the ditch found many in difficulties, while one unfortunate competitor spent about fifteen minutes trying to persuade his mount to take the leap and then had to give it up in disgust. When the cavaliers arrived where the ladies were seated they were kept waiting some little time while dainty fingers, more or less deft, manipulated straw hats, trimming and needle and thread. None of the creations could be described as lovely but that was not to be expected considering the dispatch with which some of the finished articles were turned out. The first two riders experienced some difficulty in getting through the hanging matting, but once through it was easy for those to follow. All the competitors were disqualified except Mr. R. F. C. Master, nominated by Miss Master, and Mr. Dupree, nominated by Miss Mansfield, the latter taking premier honours.

4.—4.10 p.m.—FIVE FURLONGS FLAT RACE.—HANDICAP.—For all China Ponies. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lbs. Entrance fee \$5. 1st Prize: A Cup presented by The Hon. Mr. Keswick. 2nd Prizes: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner).

Mr. E. A. Hankey's Off Chance, 149 lbs.

(Mr. Gegg) 1

Mr. Rolason's Minnoch, 144 lbs.

(Mr. R. F. C. Master) 2

Mr. W. G. Clarke's b. Lucifer, 146 lbs.

(Mr. W. G. Clarke) 3

Mr. C. Paul Chater's Rust, 154 lbs.

(Mr. Dupree) 0

Mr. G. E. Morell's Homicide (late Petard),

140 lbs. (Mr. Jordan) 0

Mr. Robert's Velocity, 140 lbs. (Roberts) ... 0

Only four of the six horses appeared from the wood and it transpired that Homicide and Velocity preferred to exercise on their own account. They had several false starts and Homicide finished by pitching Mr. Jordan while Velocity ran up the bank. The race proved to be Off Chance's, Gegg's mount running home with a few lengths to spare from Minnoch. Rust, who was favourite brought up the rear. Time 1.16-3/5. Pari-mutuel \$20.30. sweeps 1st, \$535.50; 2nd, \$153; 3rd, \$78.50.

5.—4.30 p.m.—TENT PEGGING CHALLENGE CUP.—Presented by His Excellency Major-General Broadwood, C.B. For China Ponies. To be run for five times and to be won by the

rider scoring most marks at the end of the season. Best of three runs at each meeting. Points for pace and style. Open to members of both services as well as to members of the Gymkhana Club. Winners of this event at the first two Gymkhanas this season to count marks scored by them at this meeting towards aggregate only. Mementoes presented at this meeting to be taken by riders scoring highest number exclusive of winners at the first two Gymkhana meetings this season. Entrance fee \$3. A memento presented to the 1st and 2nd.

Mr. Moxon was first with 27 points, and Mr. Marshall took second place. The cup however went to Mr. Ross, Mr. Dupree coming second.

6.—5.00 p.m.—ONE MILE AND A QUARTER

FIAT RACE. HANDICAP.—For all China Ponies. Jockeys who have not won more than two official races in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance fee \$5. 1st Prize: A Cup presented by H. N. Mody. Esq., 2nd Prize: \$25. (Entrance fees to go to winner.)

Mr. Godfrey Master's Blue Nile, 152 lbs.

(Owner) 1

Mr. Godfrey Master's Astral, 1154 lbs.

(Mr. C. Master) 2

Mr. Medico's Nigel, 140 lbs.

(Mr. F. H. May) 3

Mr. Brutton's Septima, 148 lbs. (Owner) 0

There was only a small field. Blue Nile took the lead and was joined by Nigel on the hill, but the latter was displaced by Astral, and Blue Nile and Astral had a fine run home, the former winning by about a length. Time 2/43. Pari-mutuel, \$15.30; sweeps, 1st \$598.50; 2nd \$171; 3rd \$85.50.

7.—5.20 p.m.—ULTRA-PULTRA FLAT RACE.—

About 350 yards. For China Ponies Ponies will be drawn for and will be ridden by riders drawing the corresponding numbers to those of the ponies on the programme. Drawing will take place on the course in front of the Judges' Box immediately before the race. The owner of the first pony home to give the rider \$5. Rider of last pony to give the owner \$5. Entrance fee \$5. Prize presented by J. Paterson Esq. (Entrance fees to go to winner). A memento will be presented to the rider of the last pony. The "Presented Prize" will go to the Rider, the Entrance fees to the Owner of the first pony. No competitor may ride his own pony—if by chance he draws his own pony he must exchange with some other competitor.

Mr. A. Morfey's Southdown ...

(Owner) 1

Mr. G. C. C. Master's Drayos ...

(Mr. R. F. C. Master) 2

Mr. G. Marshall's The Puddler ...

(Owner) 3

Mr. W. S. Dupree's Pathan ...

(Owner) 0

Southdown won easily and Pathan took the wooden spoon. The placing of the last horse in the winning list was rather unexpected amongst those who patronised the cash sweeps. Pari-mutuel \$9.60. Cash sweeps—1st, \$598.10; 2nd, \$171.

As we remarked in our report of the Gymkhana there was some trouble as to paying out in the cash sweeps on the ultra pultra race. The last horse was entitled to the wooden spoon and was accordingly placed in the prize list. When the officials in charge of the sweeps sent to the stewards of the Club to ascertain on which horse to pay they were advised to pay on No. 2 which, as stated, was the last horse in. However, the sweep officials on consulting the rules of the pari-mutuel, found that they provided that the money should be paid on the first horses past the post and on this being brought to the notice of the stewards it was agreed that the money should be paid on No. 4 which was the second horse in. The gentleman who holds the ticket for this horse should see the official in charge of the sweep as the latter is holding \$118 for him.

On Oct. 5th Mr. Amos P. Wilder, American Consul-General, leaves on a short holiday. He intends calling at the most important coastal ports en route to Peking, whence he will travel to Hankow, and thence overland to Canton. Mr. S. Fuller, Vice-Consul, will take charge during his absence.

IS HONGKONG LIGHTLY TAXED?

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."]

SIR—When Sir Matthew Nathan, Sir Frederick Lugard and the Hon. Mr. May are found to concur in the opinion that this Colony is lightly taxed, it may seem like sheer impudence on the part of a humble ratepayer like myself to join issue with them on this question.

But with your permission, Sir, I will venture to submit that the opinion that this community is lightly taxed in comparison with the people at Home is ill-considered and unsound.

In his speech at the Legislative Council a few days ago the Hon. Colonial Secretary stated the grounds of the official opinion in these terms:—

"It was only the other day when I was on leave that I was living in the house of a brother of mine in London. For every £100 of rent that he pays I found he paid no less than 47 golden sovereigns in rates and taxes. That is taxation with a vengeance! I did not stop there long, and I went down to a very countrified part of England in the County of Suffolk, and in one of its towns—they are pleased to call it a town; I would call it a village—I rented a house and lived there for the best part of a year. I found in that very countrified place that for every £100 rent you paid, you were paying somewhere in the neighbourhood of £25 per annum in rates and taxes. In my native city, Dublin, you have got to pay about £30 in every £100, and these are the tax-payers who would be mulcted."

His Excellency the Governor alluding to these "very striking figures," expressed the opinion that if anyone takes the trouble to work out the incidence of taxation he would find that the local taxes bear a strikingly small proportion to what the ratepayer at home has to pay.

I think very many ratepayers in this Colony, with Home experience behind them, will, if they take the trouble to work it out, arrive at the conclusion that they are paying twice as much in rates in this Colony as they would pay in any town in England or Ireland. An argument based upon the statement that we are paying here but 13 per cent in taxes while in England we would have to pay from 25 to 50 per cent, is, I consider, fallacious.

One may get in any residential district in the county of London a dwelling house of five or six rooms for £40 or £50 a year plus rates and taxes. In many districts you can get good houses for less. A few years ago I myself had a five-roomed house not five miles out from the City, for which I paid £30 a year, plus rates and taxes, which brought the total to about £40 per annum. Here in Hongkong the equal of that house is not to be had for less than £150 a year plus rates and taxes. I am at the present time living in premises smaller and without many of the conveniences of my £30 a year house in London, and I am paying for the accommodation at the present rate of exchange about £140 a year plus £20 rates.

I submit that I am paying in Hongkong twice as much in rates and taxes for imperial and local administrative purposes as I should be required to pay in London on similar premises—and this notwithstanding that London has a heavy poor rate which Hongkong has not.

Give the people of Hongkong houses to live in at rentals equal to those which obtain in London and other parts of England and they will cheerfully consent to an increase in the percentage of taxation, but until we have those conditions I say again that it is an utterly fallacious line of reasoning which reaches the conclusion that because we pay only 13 per cent here in rates while the people of England pay from 25 to 47 per cent, that we are therefore lightly taxed.

When we consider and realise how heavily the burden of the excessive rentals presses upon the residents of this Colony, I think it will be generally agreed that the government would not be likely to improve its finances by increasing the taxation.—Yours, &c.

RATEPAYER.

The total receipt into the Treasury between January 1st and July 31st were \$7,865,333.17; the total payments amounted to \$7,953,510.58. There is therefore an excess of payments over receipts of \$88,177.41.

THE TRIAL OF ADSETTS.

The trial of Adsetts on the capital charge was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 4th, when Mr. G. E. Morrell, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted and Mr. R. Harding appeared for the accused, who followed the proceedings very closely and occasionally scribbled notes on paper which he handed to his solicitor.

Lan Shing, baggage clerk at the Hongkong Hotel, said he remembered August 3rd. On that day about 11 o'clock he sent coolies to Blake Pier to fetch some passengers' luggage from the *Eastern*. It duly arrived and was placed in the hall where it remained for about half an hour. About noon a European came to the counter and spoke to the clerk. The latter gave instructions to one of the boys to show the European to his room. The European said "Have my luggage taken to my room." This was done, witness marking the luggage 184, the number of the room assigned to the European. Witness produced the luggage book, in which he had entered the name of the European from the register.

Would you know the luggage again?—Approximately I would.

The four pieces of luggage were brought in. Witness said the trunk produced was like the one that the European had, but it looked newer now. He recognised two pieces because they still bore chalk marks 184 the number of the room.

Can you identify the man?—No.

Cross-examined—Do you remember the names of the other guests who arrived by the *Eastern*?—No.

Chan Leung, house coolie, Hongkong Hotel, said he remembered the 3rd August last when he was told by the room boy to bring some luggage up from the office to room 184. He recognised the boxes and bags in court as part of those which he handled on that occasion. Next day he was ordered to carry out one of the trunks. He did so depositing it in the lift. Before this he had carried up a camphor wood box from the office into the room. He would know the box again. Witness identified exhibit F as the box. The guest accompanied him to the lift when he took the box down. The guest was the man in the dock.

Mr. Morrell—But you did not recognise him in gaol?—No.

Mr. Harding—Why could you not recognise him in gaol?

Witness—I could not see him clearly.

Why could you not see him clearly?—There were too many people about.

Is it not because he is in the dock and no one else there? Had I been in the dock you would have said I was the man?—Yes.

Would you not have said I was the man if I had been in the dock?—It was not you.

I know it was not. What difference is there between myself and the accused?—He is taller.

Is that all?—Yes.

Will you swear that was the identical camphor wood box you carried up on 4th August and no other?—Yes.

Why do you swear it?—I know it because I carried it up.

Witness declared he had not carried up any other luggage on the 3rd August.

Ip Sai, house coolie, Hongkong Hotel, spoke to having assisted the previous witness to carry a trunk from room 184 to the lift. There was a European accompanying and he went down in the lift with the trunk. The trunk in court was "approximate" to the one he carried.

Cross-examined—He could not remember what other luggage was brought up to the fifth floor on August 3rd because there was so much of it. He remembered the luggage for room 184 as the boy sent him for it. There was nothing particular in the four pieces of luggage which enabled him to identify them.

Can you recognise the European?—Not quite.

Mr. Harding—What does he mean?

The question was repeated, and witness answered No.

A hall porter in the Hongkong Hotel spoke to seeing on the 4th August a European talking to the clerk. Witness asked the European where

he was going and the latter told him to get two coolies to take a box to Butterfield and Swire. The coolies carried the box out. The European went with them. He recognised the trunk in court as the one in question, only it was not so new when he saw it before. He recognised the accused as the European.

Did you pick him out in gaol?—I told the Inspector the defendant resembled the man.

Loi Yan, street coolie, stated that between 11 a.m. and noon on August 4th he was engaged by a clerk in the Hongkong Hotel. Another man was engaged with witness. They carried a box from the Hongkong Hotel to the office of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire. While at the hotel they were told to follow prisoner. The trunk in Court was the box witness and the other man carried. Accused engaged a ricksha. On arrival at Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's the box was placed inside near the stairs. Accused told witness and his friend to wait, and he went upstairs. After waiting about half an hour prisoner came down, paid them, got into a ricksha and went away. On September 25th, at the jail, witness picked out the prisoner from among ten other men.

Cross-examined—Witness was asked to attend at the jail to identify an Englishman. He was not told what the man had done, but was asked to identify the person for whom he carried the trunk before the Court.

Do you recollect carrying any luggage on August 3rd?—I did not carry any on that day.

Weren't you told the man you were required to identify was a tall European?—No one told me.

The hearing was adjourned.

The trial of Adsetts on the capital charge was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 7th, when Mr. G. E. Morrell, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted and Mr. R. Harding appeared for the accused, who followed the proceedings very closely and occasionally had interviews with his solicitor.

H. W. Kent, shipping clerk in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, said that he usually visited the office on Sunday morning. On August 4th he was at the office when an American called and said he wished to send a box by the steamer "Singan" to Hoihow the following morning. The box was left downstairs. It was a Saratoga trunk like that produced. The American, who gave his name as F. Jackson, said the box was to be addressed to A. H. Jacques, Hoihow. It was customary to ask the shipper full details but in this case the man said the addressee was expecting the trunk and would enquire for it at the office of the company's agent. He asked witness to send it off at once but witness replied that it would go off in the ordinary course. The man seemed satisfied and left after getting the necessary documents.

Did you notice the man at all?—Yes.

Could you describe him?—He was tall, about 5ft 10, clean shaven and fair, dressed in dark grey tweed clothes, and had a brown slouch hat. He spoke with a distinct American accent.

Can you identify the man?—It is doubtful.

You failed to identify the man in the gaol?—Yes.

Did you see any more of him after he left on 4th August?—He returned in about an hour and said he wished to change the destination from Hoihow to Sydney, and to send the box next day by the "Chingtu."

What did you do?—I thought it extraordinary and asked him why he wished to change the destination so soon. He said it would be more convenient to have the box sent there, as the addressee would eventually go to Australia.

Do you issue the papers?—I agreed to make the necessary alteration and told him to return on Monday morning at office hours. He left the office.

Did he give you back the papers for the "Singan"?—No, he kept them.

When you got to the office on Monday morning was the box there?—No.

Were the papers for the "Singan" there?—Yes, they were handed to me by a Chinese shipping clerk.

Cross-examined.—Do you remember the exact time this man came in on Sunday morning?—No, it was about 10 o'clock.

Did you make any note in writing of this change of destination of the box? You remember it?—Yes.

A coolie living in a shed at the entrance to Lee Yuen Street West said he remembered the 4th August. Between 4 and 5 o'clock he was at Government Wharf. He meant Pedder's Wharf. The European in the dock engaged him to carry something. He took him to Butterfield and Swire's Office and asked him to carry the box produced which was at the side of the office stairs. Witness and another coolie took it to the bamboo wharf in front of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's. Arrived there they put it in a sampan and the European also entered the boat. He did not notice where the sampan went. The accused gave each of the coolies ten cents. Witness remembered going up to the gaol on September 25th. He saw defendant there. He identified him in the gaol.

Cross-examined—When you came up to the gaol on the 25th September did you expect to see this man?—I saw him.

Did you expect to see him?—I recognised him.

When you came up to the gaol did you expect to see that man or not?—I saw him.

Mr. Harding (to interpreter)—Can't you put the question to him intelligently?

The Interpreter—I am putting it intelligently.

His Worship—It is not very intelligible.

Mr. Harding—Can you put the question in such a way as this fool will understand, for he is a fool.

His Worship—He put the question as you asked it.

Mr. Harding—That is intelligently, is it not? Question repeated?—I saw him.

Mr. Harding—Will your Worship put down the question? I shan't ask him again.

Can you tell me the number of the sampan?—No.

Can you recognise any of the people in the sampan?—A woman.

Have you seen her since?—She is in court. How do you know?—She has been sent for by the police.

Isn't it because she was sent for by the police that you recognise her?—I recognise her.

How long did you stay on the pier?—After I put the box on the sampan I went away.

You did not loiter?—No.

Another coolie, who acted with the previous witness, spoke to being engaged by the defendant to carry a box from Butterfield and Swire's office.

Mr. Morrell—Do you recognise him?—No. Mr. Morrell—Well don't say he engaged you. Say a European engaged you.

Witness identified the box in court as the one he carried to Bamboo Pier. He assisted to put it into a sampan, and the European gave them 20 cents. Witness did not see where the European went.

Cross-examined by Mr. Harding—He knew the last witness.

You went away together?—We left the place at the same time.

Wong Kau says he saw the European enter the sampan? You must have seen it also?—No. I did not notice.

Will you swear that that box was externally the same on the 4th August as it is now?—It was a little dirtier.

Were you taken up to the gaol to identify the man who asked you to carry the box?—Yes, I could not identify him.

The sampan woman whose boat carried the trunk from Murray Pier gave evidence to having been engaged on the day in question by a European. Defendant was the man. Two coolies placed a trunk on board. The trunk in Court was the one. Then the sampan pushed off with the European on board. She went to a steamer with four masts, on board which the trunk was taken. Then the European came to pay her, giving her \$2, four half dollars.

Cross-examined.—How did he communicate with you? Did he speak Chinese?—No.

Do you understand English?—A little.

How much. What did he say?—I say "you wanchee sampan." He say "yes, how much." "I say eighty cents." He say "Pay you two dollars."

J. J. Lyons said that up till 13th August he was quartermaster of the "Monteagle" He then left the ship and remained in Hongko g since, at the request of the police. The 13th

August was the day Adsetts was arrested. On August 4th he was on watch at the main gangway and about 6.30 he saw a stranger coming up from the passengers' cabin. Accused was the stranger. Witness asked who he wished to see, and he replied that he had a trunk on a sampan which he wished to have brought on board. Witness went aft and told the boatswain to bring three men and get the trunk on board. He saw the trunk on board. The second officer came aft and asked to whom the trunk belonged. Witness said "It belongs to this gentleman," pointing to defendant. Rain was falling at the time and the second officer told witness to have it removed. It was lowered below to the big-gage room. The accused wished him to put it in the hold. He did not see what became of accused. The trunk in Court looked very much like the one brought on board.

Did you notice what the accused was wearing?—Yes.

Could you describe it?—A dark soft American hat.

Anything else?—Dark tweed suit, soft blue collar.

Would you recognise the hat?—That is the hat.

Cross-examined.—Do you remember what clothes the accused was wearing when you identified him in gaol?—No Sir.

Had you ever seen him before 4th August?—No.

Did you identify him without any difficulty?—I did.

Were there any labels on the trunk when it was brought on board?—I don't know.

How long, to your knowledge, was the accused on board?—About 20 minutes.

Li Chun, accountant in a pawnbrokers' establishment in Queen's Road, said he remembered that on August 5th a European came to the shop with two diamonds to pawn, on which witness advanced \$55. A man who came into the shop to redeem things acted as interpreter. Witness gave the man a piece of paper on which to write his name and address. He did not know what the name was. It was a piece of paper like that produced which he gave to the man. On the paper produced was written "H. Jones, Hongkong Hotel, Room 184."

You cannot identify the European?—I can.

You did not identify him in gaol?—I did.

What were the words you used?—I said that is the man.

You said you identified him?—Yes.

Mr. Morrell—I was under the impression he had not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Harding.—When you went up to identify him, did you go up and point him out or did you say something to the police?—I pointed him out.

On what date?—25th September.

Didn't you meet other people on that day who went up to identify him?—Yes.

Was that before you identified him?—Yes, before they went in.

Before you went up there on the 25th September were you asked for a description of the man?—No.

When the police came to you they asked to be shown your books?—Yes.

Did they ask whether a tall gentleman had pawned certain things?—They asked me to show them the things a European had pawned. As a matter of fact was this the only European who had pawned goods between the 3rd and the 10th?—There were several others.

Could you identify any of those?—I could not.

Min Fook, saloon boy, unemployed, said he acted as interpreter on the occasion spoken to by the last witness. The European wished to pawn two diamonds. Accused was the European. The latter wrote a chit which he gave to the pawnbroker.

How do you recognise him?—By the upper gold teeth.

Do you know how much he got?—He wanted \$70.

How much did he get?—\$55.

Witness added that the European told him his teeth had been set for \$100 in America.

The hearing was adjourned till this afternoon.

Mr. Harding—I want to make an application. I understand that registered letters have arrived for the accused and they have been kept by the police.

Mr. Morrell—That is hardly correct. A registered letter has arrived care of the Chief Detective Inspector. It will be handed to the Superintendent of the Gaol.

Mr. Harding—I think I am entitled to see them.

Mr. Morrell—It is in your power. They will be handed to your client in due course by the Superintendent.

His Worship—Mr. Harding can have them if his client hands them to him.

The trial of Adsetts on the capital charge was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 8th, when Mr. G. E. Morrell prosecuted on behalf of the Crown Solicitor, and Mr. R. Harding appeared for the accused.

Dr. Macfarlane, medical officer in charge of the public mortuary at Kowloon, stated that at 7 o'clock on the night of the 7th August last a trunk was brought to the mortuary. The trunk which was opened in the presence of witness, Chief Detective Inspector Hanson, and other officers, was found to contain the body of an adult female, which was placed with its back towards the front wall of the box and lying on its side. The legs were bent and the thighs were bent on the abdomen. The face was partly concealed by the arms. The body, which was very much decomposed, was placed on the mortuary table. Inside the trunk were two towels marked "Hongkong Hotel". The trunk in court looked like the one from which the body was taken. He made a further examination of the body. He found a belt knotted round the neck. The knot was just to the left of the middle line. To the right of the middle line the handle of a hair brush had been crushed through between the skin and the belt, and one complete turn of the belt made round the handle. The belt was tight round the neck. On undoing the knot a marked circular depression was seen running round the neck, just about the Adam's apple. Except the mark mentioned there were no bruises to be seen on the neck. Decomposition would have hidden them. There were no other external marks to be seen. The skull was normal, but the brain was a green putrid fluid. There were two gold crowned teeth on the right upper jaw. Most of the organs were decomposed. The hands were open. The fingers were very long. From the result of his examination he could not say what was the cause of death. He thought the band round the neck tightened by the brush could have caused death. He found no other possible cause of death. He saw the body again at the Happy Valley on August 15th when it was exhumed. It was in a coffin. He identified the body by the incisions he had made in it. The swelling had gone down, and the features were more recognisable. Several officers were present and a woman who said her name was Josie Marshall. The woman identified the body as being that of Gertrude Dayton. Afterwards he took out the liver and stomach, and part of the intestines, and placed them in copper glass vessels and sent them to the Government Analyst for analysis to see if there were any traces of poison.

Cross-examined—The height of the deceased woman was 5 ft. 8 inches.

Judging from the fact the body of the deceased was found with a belt twisted round the neck by the handle of a brush, would it be possible for the deceased to have committed the act of strangulation, or must it necessarily have been done by a second party?—I think it is highly improbable. There have, however, been two cases recorded during the last fifty years.

When this woman, who calls herself Josie Marshall, identified the body did she do so immediately, or did she do so after some delay?—I don't think she hesitated. She was rather alarmed at the smell of the body.

Between the time she saw the body and the time, she said she recognised it, what was the interval? Ten minutes?—No, I should think about a minute.

Re-examined by Mr. Morrell.

Were the teeth visible?—Yes, I opened the mouth.

Police Sergeant Watt said that on August 7th last in consequence of information received he went on board the steamer "Monteagle" then lying in No. 1 Kowloon Dock. Arrived on board, he went to the baggage

room where he saw a trunk. He opened it and found the body of a white woman. He had it removed to the mortuary at Yaumati. He saw the body taken from the box in the presence of Dr. Macfarlane the same evening. It was lying on the right side, with the head under the shoulder. Looking into the trunk the head could not be seen. The knees were doubled up under the chin. A gentleman's night-shirt lay across the body; a lady's waist band was fastened round the neck with a hairbrush inserted to tighten the band. He examined the night-shirt and saw a letter either "T" or "I" on the neck band. There were two towels marked "Hongkong Hotel". On the 15th Aug. he saw the body again at the mortuary, and at the Cemetery where it was identified by Miss Josie Marshall as the body of Gertrude Dayton. There was also a glove in the trunk.

Cross-examined—How long was Miss Josie Marshall in identifying the body?—She walked alongside the body and said "Yes, that's Gertrude Dayton."

Josie Marshall was then called.

You are a single woman?—Yes.

When did you arrive in the Colony?—On August 9th.

From?—Manila.

Where are you now residing?—18, Hollywood Road.

Did you know Gertrude Dayton?—Yes.

How long have you known her?—Four years.

Do you know this man?—Yes.

What is his name?—Walter Adsetts.

How long have you known him?—I first met him in July last.

Do you know whether he was acquainted with Gertrude Dayton?—Yes.

Mr. Harding objected.

You have seen them together?—Yes.

In your company?—Yes.

That is, the three of you?—Yes.

Do you know when Gertrude Dayton left Manila?—On the 31st July.

Do you know when Adsetts left?—At the same time. He left with Gertrude Dayton.

Have you ever seen Gertrude Dayton alive since she left?—No.

You saw her dead body?—Yes, at the Cemetery.

And you identified it, as being that of Gertrude Dayton?—Yes.

Were there others there?—Yes, there were five Europeans present at the identification.

How did you recognise the body as that of Gertrude Dayton?—By her teeth, arms and fingers.

What was peculiar about her teeth?—There were gold fillings in the teeth and the two front teeth were abnormally large.

And her arms? Were they beautiful arms?—No. They were square.

And her fingers?—Long with pointed nails.

You lived with her?—Yes two years and three months.

And you have no doubt that the body you saw was that of Gertrude Dayton?—No doubt.

Had Gertrude Dayton any jewellery?—Quite a little.

You mean quite a lot?—Yes.

Would you identify it again?—Yes.

Shown Box I?—Yes, that belonged to her all the pieces except one are engraved with the name of "Gertrude."

Do you recognise those four? (shown jewels.)—Yes.

Mr. Morrell—She recognises everything, except a Hongkong copper cent, as Miss Dayton's property.

And this small watch, with gold chain?—Yes, that was her's.

Mr. Morrell—The larger watch is the accused's. She identifies the larger pin and the opal earring. She does not identify the smaller pin.

Shown bracelet.—Yes that's her's.

You know she had a round note?—Yes.

You cannot identify it.

Mr. Morrell—Witness identifies the cigarette holder and locket as belonging to Miss Dayton.

Witness recognised other jewellery, as belonging to Miss Dayton. When she was asked to identify the trunk there were tears in her eyes when she answered in the affirmative. Articles of clothing, a box, three empty jewel cases, the contents of a portmanteau, and fourteen postal money orders made payable to Mrs. Hupper (Miss

Dayton's sister) were exhibited. Witness remained here, at the request of the police, to give evidence.

Cross-examined—How many gold filled or crowned teeth were in the deceased's left half top jaw?—Three, I think in the right? I don't know.

When you examined the body at Happy Valley did you count the gold stoppings in the teeth?—No.

Do you know whether deceased had any gold stoppings in the teeth of the lower jaw?—I am not sure.

Had she any teeth missing?—Not that I know of.

Are you aware that the accused left Manila to accompany Gertrude Dayton as her husband? Mr. Morrell objected.

His Worship—I think it is a fair question. Question repeated?—I don't know whether it was at the request of deceased, but I know she left Manila with him.

The hearing was adjourned.

The trial of Adsetts on the capital charge was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 9th, when Mr. G. E. Morrell prosecuted on behalf of the Crown Solicitor, and Mr. R. Harding appeared for the accused.

Mr. Frank Browne, government analyst, said that on 19th August P. S. O'Sullivan gave him the three bottles produced. He examined them and found they all contained harmless liquids. On August 14th he received from the same officer a piece of mattress ticking, a quantity of mattress hair, and a table cover, all of which he examined and found blood thereon. He could not say whether it was ordinary blood or not. On August 15th he received from Dr. Macfarlane four sealed bottles of post mortem material, which he examined for poison and found none therein.

Lolita Levitt was recalled.

Mr. Morrell—I propose to ask her one question.

Mr. Harding—I am entitled to know what question my friend intends to put.

Mr. Morrell—I intend to ask witness if she can tell how deceased was clothed when she visited her house.

Mr. Harding—I object. I cannot admit that question after the evidence of Miss Josie Marshall yesterday.

Mr. Morrell—I cannot see what my friend's objection is.

Mr. Harding—My objection is that it was stated in court yesterday by Miss Marshall—

Mr. Morrell—It does not matter what was stated in court yesterday.

Mr. Harding—Miss Marshall stated—

Mr. Morrell—She did not—

Mr. Harding—Miss Marshall stated in court yesterday what the deceased was wearing—

Mr. Morrell—She did not. She stated that a certain skirt belonged to Miss Dayton. She did not state she was wearing it.

Mr. Harding—I object.

His Worship—Has this witness been in court before?

Mr. Morrell—Yes. (To witness—On the early morning of the 4th August when she left your house, do you remember how she was dressed?)

Witness—She had a blue skirt, a shirt blouse, and a small black and white checked jacket.

Would you recognise the skirt again?—I don't know.

Does the small refer to the jacket or the check?—The check was small.

(Skirt produced.)—That looks like the skirt. It is a little paler.

In daylight would a skirt not look paler than at night?

Mr. Harding—I object.

Witness—Some shades are paler in daylight and darker at night.

Would you say it would look paler in daylight or night?—I am not a judge of that.

Is this checked jacket like the one Miss Dayton wore?—Very much like it.

Cross-examined—Have you read the statement made by Miss Marshall yesterday referring to the colours of the skirt which she said belonged to Miss Dayton? Did you read the report of the case yesterday?—Yes.

Re-examined—When did you read the report?—In last night's paper.

When were you aware you would be called?—About a quarter to one this afternoon.

Did you read the report again?—No.

Josie Marshall recalled, said that she lived with deceased in the Hotel Franca at Manila. Prior to that she had lived with her for two years and nine months. When she identified the belongings of Miss Dayton yesterday she noticed two rings were missing, one was a solitaire ring set with two diamonds.

Frances Gomes, passenger clerk in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, stated that on 5th August a white man came to the office and booked a first class passage to Shanghai on the "Tosa Maru." He gave the name of Mr. Jackson.

Do you see him now?—I see him at the bar.

I suppose you mean in the dock?—Yes.

Witness added that Mr. Jackson paid \$50 for his passage. Witness saw him on board the day the vessel sailed. On the 30th September he saw the accused again when he picked him out from a number of others in Victoria Gaol.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Deputy Superintendent of Police, gave details of the identification in Victoria Gaol. Defendant was placed with ten other men. Miss Marshall picked him out when he was sitting number three from the left. Other witnesses failed to identify him, several picked out the wrong man, one or two said defendant "looked like the man," but a number had no difficulty in identifying him with the exception of the first two witnesses. Defendant chose his position himself. On the 30th September witness held another identification in the gaol. Witness Kent picked out the wrong man, but witness Gomes identified the defendant when the men were in the same order. On the 1st October he held another identification in the gaol. The witnesses were brought in one by one.

Did the defendant make any remarks during the identification?—After the witness Lai Lok had identified the defendant and had been taken away, the defendant objected to the identification as being unfair. He objected because he said the hotel boys could identify his clothes and hat. In consequence of that remark I made them take off their hats.

Cross-examined—You have told us that the defendant notably looked taller than the others?—Yes.

How much would he be taller than the next tallest?—About two inches, I think.

I suppose the same difference would be apparent when they sat down?—I don't think so.

Why?—I think men tend to look more of the same height when seated.

Where were these witnesses located prior to the identification?—The Chinese witnesses were in the Court Yard and the American ladies were in the Detectives' Office.

I suppose all the men were clean shaven?—Yes.

Did they look as if they had been shaved that morning?—Well, recently.

The defendant was not?—I did not notice it.

He was not shaved in gaol?—He did not appear more unshaven than the others.

On the 30th of August defendant would look dirtier than the other men?—Yes.

With regard to the objection made by defendant that the hotel boys would identify him because they would have seen his clothes and hat hanging up, was that a voluntary statement or in reply to a question from you?—I think it was a voluntary statement.

Detective-Sergt. O'Sullivan, said that on 8th August in consequence of information received he went to the Hongkong Hotel and examined the register. He found the names "Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jones, Room 184" and asked if they were in. A clerk called a porter to find out whether they were in their room and word came back that they had not been seen for three or four days. Witness asked for the manager and, when Mr. Davies came, he asked him to accompany witness to Room 184. They entered the room. Mr. Davies remarked that two bath towels belonging to the room were missing. Witness made a hurried examination of the room and locked it, taking the key away. Next morning he made a careful examination of the room with Chief Detective Inspector Hanson and found the dark tweed coat produced hanging on a rack at the right of the bed. On the rack was a black soft hat, a crepe shirt, and a vest. The bed was in order. Blood was found

on the mattress on the under side. Folded up in a sofa he found a pair of pants of the same material as the jacket and some clothing which had apparently come from the laundry. Some of the handkerchiefs were marked with the name "Gertrude." He also found in the room the cash box, some empty jewel cases, the luggage produced, and a black felt hat with the name "A. B. Jacques and Co." inside. He brought the prisoner back from Manila, landing here on 23rd September. Prisoner was handed over to him by the authorities at Manila.

Cross-examined—The part of the mattress ticking produced was taken from nearer one end than the other, nearer the head than the foot. He questioned both room boys on the night of August 8th as to whether they had removed anything from the room, and they told him they had not. He took the key of the room away with him. He did not ask Mr. Davies if there was another key.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said that on 9th August he went to the Hongkong Hotel and proceeded to Room 184 and with the last witness examined the mattress. The bloodstains were on the under side of the mattress. There were bloodstains on the table cover. On 24th September at 10 a.m. he read over the charge in his office to the defendant, whom he cautioned. The defendant made the following statement "I wish to plead not guilty." I took it down in writing and the accused signed it.

Mr. Morrell—That is the case for the prosecution. I submit I have made out a *prima facie* case and that the accused must take his trial at the next sessions.

Mr. Harding—I don't propose to address your Worship at any length at all. I simply reserve my defence.

In reply to the usual question asking him if he had anything to say in answer to the charge, accused replied in the negative.

His Worship—Mr. Harding, I must ask your client if he wishes to make any statement or to call any witnesses.

Accused said he did not.

His Worship—You are committed to take your trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

Adsett seemed relieved to have reached the final of the first part of a long trial.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, October 9th.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED WRONGFUL ARREST.

Action was brought by Li Cheung against Ah Yeung-wan, a partner in the Kwong Cheung Sang shop of 25, Gilman's Bazaar, to recover \$250 damages for wrongful arrest.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. A. Harding for the defendant.

Mr. Kong Sing, in opening, said the claim was for \$250 for wrongful arrest, but he would ask his Lordship to allow him to amend the writ by adding another count for assault.

His Lordship—What is that?

Mr. Kong Sing—For assault taking place at the time of the arrest and false imprisonment.

Mr. Harding—I am not prepared to deal with anything beyond what is in the writ.

His Lordship—He claims damages, I suppose?

Mr. Kong Sing—Yes.

His Lordship—\$250 for assault?

Mr. Kong Sing—For assault and false imprisonment.

His Lordship—What is the assault?

Mr. Kong Sing—Taking the plaintiff by the queue and pulling him along the street.

His Lordship—That is technical assault.

(To Mr. Harding)—What have you got to say?

Mr. Harding—I am only prepared to deal with the question of malicious arrest.

His Lordship—Well, what have you got to say about this?

Mr. Harding—I must object to the amendment at this stage. The case has been before your Lordship twice.

His Lordship—It is not a very old case. I shall allow the amendment, because the whole thing must be part of the same story, I think.

Mr. Kong Sing, proceeding, said both plaintiff and defendant in this action were fruit dealers. On September 18th the s.s. *Kai Chow* brought here amongst her cargo a certain quantity of pears. There were 45 baskets consigned to the defendant, ten to third parties and 25 to the plaintiff. These baskets of pears were sent off by the steward of the ship, who gave orders to a sampan woman to deliver them to their respective owners. The first lot of pears, those belonging to the defendant and the third parties, were delivered at Wing Woh Street, where defendant took delivery of his lot through his fohis. After delivery had been made there the boatwoman proceeded to the Praya opposite the Central Market, and there sent for plaintiff to take delivery of his pears. Plaintiff's fohis had already taken these baskets away when defendant's fohis arrived on the scene and said the plaintiff's men were stealing pears. All the plaintiff's fohis immediately ran away and informed the plaintiff who went down to the Praya. On his arrival the defendant caught hold of him, and without asking for an explanation said he was stealing the pears. Catching him by the queue the defendant led plaintiff along the Street until they saw a policeman. Plaintiff was then taken to the Central Police Station, by the constable, but was allowed to go after the inspector-in-charge had investigated the case.

After hearing the evidence his Lordship entered judgment for defendant, but made no order as to costs.

Thursday, October 10th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED FORGED CHOPS

The part heard case was concluded in which Lam Wing, an endorsee of Hau Kee, sued the Po Sang firm to recover the sum of \$500.84, amount of principal and interest due under a promissory note for \$500 made by the defendant firm on August 21st, and payable to Hau Kee on demand. In the alternative the plaintiff claimed as assignee \$500, for money lent to the defendant firm.

Mr. R. Harding appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. A. Harding for the defendant.

Mr. R. Harding—I am not quite sure of the position of this case at present, your Lordship, but I understand the man Mui is in the box and I am entitled to cross-examine him.

Mr. R. A. Harding—The case was adjourned for my friend to produce Hau Kee. He should be put in the box first.

His Lordship—I don't think Hau Kee's evidence will have the slightest effect with me.

Mr. R. A. Harding—My clients may have in view other proceedings, and we should like to know this man.

Mr. R. Harding—I am going to ask your Lordship to allow me to call further evidence to rebut the defendant's evidence.

His Lordship—As the matter stands you have not got a case.

Mr. R. Harding—No, but if allowed to call this fresh evidence I will have a very strong case.

The manager of the defendant firm, recalled, was again cross-examined by Mr. R. Harding. He said he kept the chops of the firm at night, but handed them to another man by day for the purpose of carrying on the business.

Re-examined—The chop on the stamp forms produced was not the chop of his firm. It was a forgery. Neither were the signatures on further stamp forms placed before the Court the signatures of any persons in his employ.

The case was adjourned.

Among the passengers leaving by the s.s. *Roon* on Oct. 9th for England is Mr. H. Hursthouse, solicitor, who for the past ten years has been engaged with the firm of Messrs. Denny and Bowley. It is probable that after a holiday at home Mr. Hursthouse will return to Shanghai to carry on the practice of his profession. During his stay in Hongkong he has made many friends who will regret his departure from their midst.

SECRETARY TAFT IN HONGKONG.

A HEARTY WELCOME: INTERESTING ADDRESSES.

The booming of guns in the harbour early on October 12th was the announcement of the arrival at this port of the Hon. W. H. Taft, United States Secretary of War, and his party. It was some hours after the arrival of the s.s. *Minnesota* that Secretary Taft and his party boarded the Government launch *Victoria* and were conveyed to Pedders Wharf, the environs of which were packed with spectators. The Star Spangled Banner was much in evidence, and from many buildings along the water front and in other parts of the town it floated in the breeze with the Meteor flag of England, the two banners waiving a welcome to the American guests. There was a guard of honour on Pedders Wharf drawn from the 3rd Middlesex Regiment, and as the Government launch approached the pier, the guard presented arms, the probable successor to the presidency of the United States of America stepping ashore as the band struck up "The Star Spangled Banner." He was followed by Mrs. Taft and his son, by Captain Ogle, His Excellency's A.D.C., Mr. Amos P. Wilder, U. S. Consul-General, Mr. S. Fuller, U. S. Vice Consul-General and others. After inspecting the guard of honour while a battery of kodaks were turned upon him, Secretary Taft and his party moved towards the Government House chairs. The massive conveyance provided for his use caused Mr. Taft to smile, and he is said to have asked the A.D.C. whether it would carry him. Receiving a reply in the affirmative he entered his sedan, and with his party was borne to Government House. Here the guests were met and entertained by His Excellency and Lady Lugard.

A CHINESE TIFFIN.

Mr. Taft met the leading Chinese residents of the Colony at a Chinese tiffin given by Mr. Amos P. Wilder, the United States Consul General, at the Tung Tien San, one of the principal Chinese restaurants, situated near the Gas Works. The spacious room on the highest floor was assigned for the tiffin and was gaily decorated with flowers and the national colours of the United States, England and China. Mr. Wilder presided over the tiffin, having Mr. Taft on his right, and on his left H. E. Wu Ting Fang, the newly-appointed Minister to Washington. General Clarence Edwards, chief of the Transport Service of the U. S. War Department, Hon. H. C. Taylor, Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, and Mr. Stuart J. Fuller U.S. Vice-Consul also occupied seats at the crosstable. The other guests included

Chan Chun Chuen, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, Ho Tung, Ju Kui Yuen, Fung Wa Chuen, Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Dr. Wu Ting Fang, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Sin Tak Fan, Choa Lop Chee, Quan Hing, Fong King Tong, Loong Hon Chee, Wu Wau Cho, Ma Hong Chau, Yue Sin Ting, Leung King Wan, Chan Choy Hing, Kwok Shui Ting, Wong Shiu Tong, Yue Yuk Chee, Hon. Wei Yuk, Lai Shun Hing, Lo Po Son, Tang Chi Ngong, Un Lai Chuen, Iaw Yau Cheong, Tang Li Pun, Chiu Yue Tin, Tam Teze Kong, Leung Pui Chi, Leung Kien On, Fong Lee San, Li Shum Ling, Luk Pak Chan, Pun Lan Sze, Ng Sut Tit, Lo Kuen Ting, Francis Tse Yet, Ku Fai Shang, Chau Sui Ki, Lau Yam Chuen, Pun Yan Chun, Tang Lan Kuk, Ng Lan Hing, Lo Cho Son, Chan Kit Son, Wong Lai Chun, Mark Pure, Miu Ngai Yok, Chan Kai Ming, Dr. Wam Tin Mo, Lam Woo, Au Fung Chi, Ho Yan, Lo Kit Ping.

The toast list was discussed, Chinese fashion, between the courses.

The CHAIRMAN in submitting the toast of "Edward, King and Emperor" said:—We are here, residents in and guests of a British Colony. This city of marvellous and distinctive beauty and strength, this industrial centre, to share whose prosperity men of all nations are welcomed, is a monument to the courage, the patience, the sagacity of the people of Great Britain. Their representative, Sir Frederick Lugard, in his brief term, has already won all hearts. I ask you to drink to the health of Edward, King and Emperor. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Fung Wa Chun interpreted the speech.

Mr. J. W. BOLLES, submitting the toast of "The Emperor of China," said:—This company represents in the main the great Empire of China. That China may peacefully develop a patriotic self-consciousness, and take the position among the Powers of earth to which her splendid resources and the industry, the thrift and friendliness of her people entitle her, and which the God of nations has in store for her, is the wish of right-thinking men of all nations. I ask you to drink to the health of the Emperor of China. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Lau Chu Pak interpreted the speech.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed the health of his Excellency Wu Ting Fang. Americans, he said, are universally pleased at the election by the Peking Government of Dr. Wu Ting Fang to again represent the Chinese Empire in the United States. We are fortunate in having the gentleman with us to-day. Dr. Wu, by his ready wit, his kindly spirit, by his willingness to talk and entertain in all parts of the country, and not less by his loyalty to the interests of his own Empire, proved a great success in Washington for six years. Hongkong is proud of this distinguished son, and all of us, of whatever nationality, wish him a safe journey to America, prosperity in his ways, and fresh triumphs in diplomacy, for the interests of both China and America. (Applause.)

Mr. Ho Tung interpreted the speech.

H. E. WU TING FANG replied in English, his speech being afterwards translated into Chinese by Mr. Fung Wa Chun. His Excellency said:—I am very much pleased indeed to be present on this occasion to do honour to our distinguished friend, Mr. Taft—(applause). But I am somewhat surprised that a toast has been given in my honour, and I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the flattering expressions given in my favour. I hope I deserved one quarter of them. Now gentlemen, I am not to keep you long by speaking, because a more distinguished gentleman is to follow me and we will all be glad to hear him—(applause). It is needless for me to say, and I think all the gentlemen here present will join with me, that it has given us all great pleasure to welcome the distinguished guest here—(applause). I had the pleasure and honour of knowing him when I was in America. He was a Judge of the High Court and I need scarcely tell you that he dispensed justice equally, without partiality, without distinction of race, colour, politics or religion—(hear, hear and applause). And whatever position he holds he is a credit to himself and an honour to the country in which he holds so high a position. Of course, as I am going to America I am not going to speak of politics—(laughter)—but, I think, gentlemen, you will agree with me in wishing him a higher position (loud applause). I will conclude with the toast of "The health of the President of the United States, and the prospective President of the United States and prosperity to America." I assure you that China and America always have had the most friendly relations, and it is my duty when I get there to continue to have those friendly relations cemented and strengthened and brought closer from day to day—(loud applause).

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the health of Mr. Taft said:—Nothing has given me greater pleasure during my stay in Hongkong than to bring together at a common board representative Chinese of official, professional, and business circles, and the guest of the evening. To you Mr. Taft appeals as a statesman, the elder brother of the Filipino people, the peace-maker of Cuba, the strong hand behind the shovel that is to dig the Panama Canal; the wise counsellor in Japanese affairs, the man who has the confidence of China, and a possible successor to the God-like Washington and Lincoln, and of Mr. Taft's intimate that multiplied man and world-figure—Theodore Roosevelt. These things Mr. Taft's presence suggests to you. To me, this afternoon, these large considerations are lost in the pleasure of being in the company of a most distinguished graduate of my old College, Yale, and a friend of many years' standing. Secretary Taft is known for his inheritance from a remarkable father, his own attainments and experience; but these things interest us less to-day than his good sense, his large heart and his sympathy with the nations of the earth. It is these things that make

William Taft truly a world-figure. There is a sentence in the Christian's Bible that is accepted by men of all creeds. "Of one blood created He all nations." All men respond to the touch of true manhood, and it is because of Mr. Taft's broad sympathy and high integrity that men of all nations, faiths and tongues the world over gather to do him honour—(applause).

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI proposed the health of the distinguished guest in a Chinese speech in which he felicitously alluded to Mr. Taft's previous visits to the Colony, and to his great work in the Philippine Islands. Particular reference was made to Mr. Taft's last visit to the Colony when he met some of the Chinese residents and discussed with them the questions which had led to the boycott of American imports into China with a view to a settlement of the matters in dispute. In most cordial terms Dr. Ho Kai submitted the toast which was received with marked cordiality.

Mr. Taft, on rising to reply was greeted with prolonged applause. He said:—Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, and Chinese gentlemen of Hongkong.—It is a great pleasure to me to be in Hongkong once more. I think this is my fifth visit and always have I found Hongkong hospitable, always have I found it beautiful. It is a city remarkable in the world's history, that it should have grown, as sometimes a tree will grow on earth, out of a rock. And the prosperity of the city, the door of China, as it is, makes it, without any country back of it in a sense, the commercial means of reaching China, and makes it unique among the cities of the world. Now, it is a great pleasure, also, for me to meet here my old college friend the American Consul-General, Mr. Amos Wilder. It is a great pleasure to meet His Excellency the Chinese Minister to Washington, Dr. Wu. But it is somewhat embarrassing to meet both, for Mr. Wilder is known from one end of the United States to the other as the first after-dinner speaker that we have in that country—(applause). and Dr. Wu, while he was six years in the United States, became one of our foremost orators—(applause), and now to be led on by them into a comparison in which one is necessarily at a great disadvantage produces considerable embarrassment. You would think that our friend the American Consul-General of course graduated some ten or fifteen years before me, but it is not the fact—(laughter). He was the classmate of a younger brother of mine—you would not think it, but it is the fact (laughter). Another fact that you don't know but I am proud to advise you of is that Dr. Wu and I are classmates, for we were both given the Doctorate of Laws by the University of Pennsylvania in 1902—(applause)—he as a learned Chinese scholar and orator who delivered a most instructive and learned address there, and I—just on general principles—"Oh" and laughter). Now we, as I say, were graduates. It is a great pleasure to know that Dr. Wu is going back to America. Within my own personal experience, China has been at great advantage in her representatives at Washington—(applause). Dr. Wu who was there for six years and who comes, I think, from Canton, and Sir Chentung, who is also, I believe, of Canton, and also a graduate of an American institution, are men who have commended themselves in every way to those of us Americans who had the pleasure of coming into contact with them—(applause). Somehow or other, Canton seems to be something like Ohio in furnishing statesmen for the guidance of their country's affairs—(laughter and applause). I heard that Dr. Wu was in Peking. I saw a great house that belonged to Dr. Wu in Shanghai, and I find him in person in Hongkong, so that he covers the entire Empire and wherever you meet him it is always a pleasure—(applause). The last time I was in Hongkong I had the pleasure of being with a very large party of whom Miss Roosevelt, since Mrs. Longworth, was one, and it was during that time there was a little bit of mist in the sunshine of friendship that always has existed between China and the United States, and there was what was called a boycott on, and Sir Matthew Nathan, anxious to facilitate the good relations between the two countries, invited me to meet some of your distinguished men in Hongkong. And I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Ho Kai and two others of our

hosts to-day. I am glad to say that mist has disappeared. I think the gentlemen will bear me out in saying that I stated at that time that President Roosevelt had his eyes fixed in ameliorating the hardships, the difficulties and the injustices that were then complained of, but I am informed, though it is not my department, that there has been great improvement in that direction (loud applause).

Since that time the question of Chinese indemnity has arisen, and America has waived half of that which had been awarded to her. Now it is said that is only half what she ought to have done—I agree. If that ought not to have been awarded to her she ought not to have taken it, but, my dear friends, that nicety of justice in international dealings is not so universal or exceptional as to prevent its being occasion for good feeling between the parties to the transaction. Again, the attention of the Government of Washington had been directed to the fact that the Consular body in China was not up to the standard which it ought to have been, and, within the last two or three years, I think you will bear me out in saying that that standard has been raised—(applause)—and that the Consuls who now represent the interests of America in China will certainly by their integrity and intelligence facilitate the continuance of those friendly relations between China and the United States which we all so much desire (applause).

Again, Congress has risen to the fact that, when China placed on us the right to have justice administered under what is called the system of extraterritoriality, it imposed on the United States the burden of seeing that the justice thus administered is of the highest and most lofty character and, therefore, Congress has created a United States Circuit Court for China, and it has put a good lawyer and a courageous and honest man at the head of it who will do justice, and equal justice, between the Chinese and Americans who are brought into his Court, that no Chinese merchants and no Chinese coolies, however humble, will feel that in that Court he has the wrong side because an American has any advantage over him as a litigant—(applause). I could go on and talk longer with reference to the relations between China and America. All I ought to do this time is to say that no improvement that can take place in China, either in governmental or administrative reform, in the development of your resources, in the elevation of your people, in the education of your civil servants or anything else that increases your strength as an Empire can take place without the cordial sympathy and support of the United States—(loud applause).

The speech was translated by Dr. Ho Kai, and shortly afterwards the company dispersed, Mr. Taft and party proceeding to the Chinese Y.M.C.A. rooms.

THE ADDRESS AT THE CHINESE Y.M.C.A.

The large rooms of the Chinese branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, which were prettily decorated for the occasion, were crowded to their utmost capacity at three o'clock on Saturday afternoon when Mr. William H. Taft, accompanied by Mr. A. P. Wilder, arrived.

After a few introductory remarks by the Consul-General, Secretary Taft interpreted by Mr. Ng Tin Po, said:—

"I certainly think Dr. Wilder should have made this speech, for he is a far better speaker than I. However, it seems as though the Doctor had an exalted opinion of my ability to make speeches, for ever since I landed he has kept me at it, and I do not know when he is going to stop. I congratulate you on the excellent Christian Club you have here. Young men need such a Club, and this is especially true of the young man who comes to a large city from his home in the country. Over in England, Young Men's Christian Associations have been organized in every city of that country, and they seek to make the Young Men's Christian Association a Christian Club where men can go and have refreshing amusement and enjoy themselves as they will, but where at the same time they are entirely separated from vicious pursuits.

Now this Association has brought to its various centres a good many young men to act as Secretaries to the Association; and these men are schooled in making these centres attractive to the men who will come. They

are trained to run an Institution like this, which aims at being a Christian Club and a Christian home, as economically and as efficiently as possible. For this cause they have won the confidence of the people, especially the men of wealth, who give them the money which enable the Association to construct the great Christian Clubs in the various cities of the world. A man knows, when he gives his money to the Young Men's Christian Association, that it will be expended for the good of his fellow man, and every dollar expended for the good purpose he has in mind.

In the city of Shanghai they have now erected a Club House adopted in every way to carry out the purposes of the Association. I had the pleasure of being present at the initiation or installation of that Club House just three days ago. The Taotai of Shanghai was present in person and the representative of the Viceroy of that province. They had contributed large donations to the furnishing of the building which itself had been given by a benevolent gentleman in America.

One of the great advantages of the Young Men's Christian Association is that it is altogether undenominational. It answers the question which so many put to the American and other missionaries with respect to the Christian religion and the Christian doctrine, — why is it that it is necessary to have so many denominations among the Christians? This is an Association that represents the brotherhood of all Christian denominations, and shows that they may all unite in the principles they live to spread amongst the countries of the world.

It is a most practical and useful organization, and I congratulate the Chinese people of Hongkong that it is here in a prosperous condition, and I sincerely hope that years will not pass before you shall inaugurate a building of your own for the advancement of the aims of the association in Hongkong. (Applause.)

Mr. Mow Fung thanked the Honourable Mr. Taft, in the name of the management, for the great honour he had conferred upon the Association, and hoped that not only would the Association in Hongkong benefit, but that the Associations in America and China would be brought nearer together, as the result of his presence there that afternoon! And more than that, he trusted the relations between the two nations, the American and the Chinese, would be closer as the result of this visit. Three cheers for Mr. Taft, very heartily given by the Chinese audience, closed the proceedings.

RECEPTION AT THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

There was no sign of fatigue in the friendly smile of Mr. Taft, nor hint of boredom in the cordial handshake given to each of the long line of guests who had been invited to the Consul-General's reception at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday afternoon. The entrance to the hotel was transformed for the occasion by the plentiful use of bunting and palms; the Stars and Stripes of course being conspicuous everywhere. At 5 o'clock the guests began to arrive and were received in the Reception Room on the first floor of the hotel where Secretary and Mrs. Taft, General Edwards, and the leading American residents in the Colony, were assembled. The introductions were made by Mr. Wilder, the guests afterwards finding their way to the adjacent dining-rooms which had been re-arranged and decorated for the reception. Here refreshments were served at small tables; the orchestra playing a selection of music, while the constant stream of visitors circulated through the rooms, the American accent naturally dominating the hum of conversation, though the English guests were also numerous. By half past six the last elaborate gown, and frock coat and silk hat had made its bow and departed and the hardworked secretary had a few moments of leisure before the next event in a crowded day.

AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Mr. Secretary Taft and Mrs. Taft were entertained at dinner by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Lugard. In addition to the members of the distinguished statesman's party there were also invited the Hon. Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Atkinson, His Excellency Major-General Broadwood, Commodore Stokes,

Mr and Mrs A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr and Mrs Chatham, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Mr A. G. M. Fletcher, Hon. Mr E. A. Hewett, Hon. Dr. Bo Kai, Hon. Mr and Mrs Keswick, Hon. Mr and Mrs F. H. May, Hon. Mr E. Osborne, Hon. Mr Rees Davies, His Honour Mr Justice Wise, Hon. Mr Wei Yuk, Hon. Commander and Mrs Basil Taylor, Captain E. H. Bonham, Messrs Fung Wa Chun, Lau Chu Pak, Ho Chak Lhang and Leung Pui Chi.

A reception followed at Government House at ten o'clock. About 330 invitations were issued, and the overcrowding which is often a feature of these functions was thus avoided on this occasion. His Excellency and Lady Lugard received their guests at the top of the steps leading to the ball room, while the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Taft stood at the entrance to the room and welcomed the guests as they passed in. The night being fine, guests passed from the ballroom on to the lawn which had been gaily decorated with Chinese lanterns and there spent a pleasant hour, refreshments being served from a couple of scarlet tents.

Those invited to the reception were:—

Dr. G. E. Aubrey and officers of H.M.S. "Astraea."

Commander Bamber and officers of H.M.S. "Britonart," Staff Surgeon and Mrs Baiss, Eng-Lt. and Mrs H. F. Bell, Mr R. F. Brayn, Rev. and Mrs Banister, Mr and Mrs J. M. Beck, Mr and Mrs J. P. Braga, Mr J. Barton, Lady and the Misses Berkeley, and Mrs L. G. Bird, Mr and Mrs H. W. Bird, Mr J. Dyer Ball, Mr F. B. L. Bowley, Captain and Mrs Beasley, Mr F. D. Barretto, Mr A. A. H. Botelho, Mr and Mrs Bribosia, Mr A. Bryer.

Major Chapman, V.D., and officers of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, Lt. H. B. Cox, and officers H.M.S. "Whiting," Major and Mrs Chitty and officers of the 10th Infantry, Mr Carr, Mr. E. S. Carruthers, Mr. D. W. Craddock, Mr and Mrs W. L. Carter, Mr. and Mrs Clothier, Mr. and Mrs R. F. Crofton, Captain and Mrs Collingwood, Colonel and Mrs Carter, Dr. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Cumming, Miss Campbell.

Lt.-Colonel D rling, Lt.-Com. Darwall and officers of H.M.S. "Handy," Lt. G. C. Dickens and officers of H.M.S. "Hart," Lt.-Colonel Dumbleton and officers of the Royal Engineers, Mr. and Mrs E. David, Mr. and Mrs T. K. Dealy, Miss Doberck, Mr. and Mrs Danby, Mr and Mrs W. H. Donald, Mr H. B. L. Dowbiggin, Mr W. J. Daniel, Captain and Mrs Dooner, Mr C. J. Droeze.

Mr and Mrs d'Esterre, Mr. J. A. Eitzen, Dr and Mrs Evan Jones, Mr W. B. Ewles.

Commander and Mrs Freemantle, Mr Denman Fuller, Mr E. Freyvogel, Mr M. Fraser, Mr and Mrs Figg, Rev. and Mrs France.

Commander and Mrs Grenfell and officers of the "Tamar," Dr and Mrs Grone, Major Gale, Mr C. H. Garco.

Mr F. A. Hazeland, Captain S. De Horsey, and officers of H.M.S. "Kent," Mr H. Humphreys, Mr R. O. Hutchison, Mr and Mrs Hazeland, Mr and Mrs G. A. Hastings, Mr and Mrs J. Scott Harston, Mr R. C. R. Hancock, Mr P. M. Hodgson, Dr and Mrs Montague Harston, Mr and Mrs R. Hancock, Miss Hamilton, Mr Mrs and Miss Shelton Hooper, Mr and Mrs B. A. Hale, Mr and Mrs Hornby.

Mr and Mrs Irving, Mr P. Jacks, Dr and Mrs Jordan, Mr and Mrs Jorge.

Mr J. H. Kemp, Lt. S. Kiddle and officers of H.M.S. "Otter," Colonel Kent and officers of the Royal Artillery, Mr and Mrs Kadoorie, Dr and Mrs Koch, Mr and Mrs Kikuchi.

Captain and Mrs F. W. Lyons, Rev. and Mrs Longridge, Mr and Mrs Looker, Mr, Mrs and Miss Layton, Mr and Mrs La Frenza, Mr, Mrs and the Misses Loureiro, Mr D. R. Law, Mrs Low, Mr G. T. Lloyd.

Mr and Mrs C. McI. Messer, Mr G. Morrell, Mr C. D. Melbourne, Mr C. W. May, Mr and Mrs K. Matsda, Mr, Mrs and Miss Master, Mr B. F. C. Master, Mr and Mrs Mackay, Mr and Mrs G. C. Moxon, Captain and Mrs Marchant, Capt and Mrs H. C. Moultrie, Mr S. Mashiko, Mr and Mrs A. P. Marty.

Captain Nugent and officers of H.M.S. "Flora."

Mr and Mrs Ormiston.

Colonel Price and officers of the 129th Baluchis, Rev. and Mrs Pearce, Mr W. R. M'D. Parr, Miss Pearson, Mr and Mrs Phelps, Mr

and Mrs Peter, Major Phillips and officers of H.K. S.B.R.G.A., Major and Mrs Parry, Mr and Mrs Pereira, Mr and Mrs Somerset Playne.

Commander Raikes and officers H.M.S. "Clio," Lt. Colonel Reid and officers R.A.M.C., Mr and Mrs Ryley, Mr and Mrs Ram, Mr and Mrs Rennie, Mr C. H. Ross Mr and Mrs Romano.

Commander and Mrs Stevenson and officers H.M.S. "Virago," Colonel and Mrs Scott-Moncrieff and officers Third Middlesex Regiment, Colonel and Mrs Seymour, Major and Mr. Stephenson, Rev. Mr Searle, Mr and Mrs Saunders, Mr S. Swart, Captain and Mrs Stanger-Leathes, Dr and Mrs Stedman, Mr and Mrs Shewan, Dr and Miss Sanders, Mr and Miss H. W. Slade, Mr J. R. M. Smith, Miss Schoch, Mr P. M. Silva.

Mr Teissier, Mr and Mrs Tomkins, Mr and Mrs Tutoher, Captain and Mrs Thompson, Mr and Mrs H. P. Tooker, Mr. W. C. D. Turner, Mr D. W. Tratman.

Capt in and Mrs Tuke, Mr and Mrs O. D. Thomson, Rev. C. E. Thompson, Mr and Mrs Turner, Dr. J. G. and Mrs Take.

Mr E. W. Warre, Mr and Mrs C. D. Wilkin-son, Dr and Mrs Bateson Wright, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Mr A. G. Wood, Mr T. Wright, Major Williamson and officers Army Service Corps, Captain and Mrs Wait.

Chev. and Mrs Volpicelli, Dr. Herr und Frau Vorcksch.

The following Chinese gentlemen were also invited:—

Chan A Fook, Chan Sin Ki, Choa Leep Chee, Ho Kom Tong, Ho Tung, Hui Shui Chun, Tong Lai Tsun, Tseng Kai, Uen Lai Chun, Wei Wah Leen, Wong Kam Fuk, Yung Hin Pong, Ku Fai Shan, Chiu Ue Tin, Lo Tse Shao, Chau Tsok Peng, Lau Yam Chun, Leung Ya Po, Siu Yuen Fai, Lo Kun Teng, Chang Kang Yue, Tam Tsz Kong, Tso Sin Wan, Yuen Wan Kin, Chu Sik Ue, Tsen Tam Chi.

Mr. Taft and party sailed for Manila at midnight on Saturday and are due to arrive there early to-morrow morning. When he leaves Mr. Taft will proceed to Vladivostok on a cruiser, and travel home via Siberia.

IMPROVED RICSHAS FOR HONGKONG.

AN IMPORTANT REGULATION.

For some years the local Press and unofficial members of the Legislative Council have been agitating for the provision of more up-to-date rickshas than the vehicles which at present traverse the streets of Hongkong, and although for a long time it appeared that they raised their voices to cry in a wilderness, this has not been the case. The Colony's want has been made known to his Excellency the Governor, and he has decided that the Island shall have an improved pattern of ricksha equal to the conveyances of Saigon, Macao and other Eastern ports. To this end a regulation made by the Governor-in-Council is published in the *Gazette* setting forth that no licences shall be issued for more than 1000 rickshas within the City of Victoria. The words appearing in a former notification were that "no licences should be issued for more than 600 rickshas within the island of Hongkong." It would therefore appear that, notwithstanding the introduction of the tramway service, there is a greater demand for the eastern mode of conveyance than heretofore. It is further provided by the said regulation that rickshas shall be divided into two classes. Those in the first class shall have white washable covers and rubber tyres, and shall be of such pattern, size and weight as shall be approved by the Captain-Superintendent of Police. The table of fares is amended as follows for the City of Victoria, and beyond Victoria, if engaged in Victoria:—

First Class. Second Class.		
Ten Minutes, ...	5 cents.	5 cents.
Quarter Hour, ...	10 "	5 "
Half Hour, ...	15 "	10 "
Hour, ...	20 "	15 "
Every Subsequent Hour, 20 "		10 "

H. E. the Governor has been pleased, under instructions received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. C. W. Jeffries to be first assistant at the Observatory.

"ROB ROY."

PRODUCTION OF SCOTTISH PLAY AT KOWLOON

A new factor in the entertainment of the Colony has made its appearance. Another dramatic combination has been created, this time at Kowloon in the midst of that hive of human industry and that scene of great undertakings, the Docks, and it is safe to say that the new organisation, despite its unpropitious environment, is likely to be a healthy one. Whether its existence be long or short, there can be no doubt that the new arrival is very welcome. This was evident on Saturday night when the Kowloon Dock Amateur Dramatic Company made its first public effort with a performance of "Rob Roy" which was successful beyond the most sanguine expectations of its promoters.

Before speaking of the performance itself it might be as well to give some idea of the conditions under which it took place. When the company was formed it was found that with the exception of some three or four, none of its members had ever set foot on a stage, much less attempted any part in theatricals, yet this very amateurish combination has by constant training and study evolved to a very creditable degree of efficiency in the work it has undertaken. Certainly the production of "Rob Roy" on Saturday night was one of which no amateurs need be ashamed and when the conditions are considered and the difficulties under which the company have had to labour are remembered it must be deemed highly praiseworthy. As one who was responsible to a large extent for the company's success Mr. R. H. Baxter deserves mention. He filled the trying position of stage manager admirably and his experience proved of no little value to the budding Theatians. Another hard worker was Mr. D. Keith, who charged himself with the large amount of carpenter work that was necessary, and of course the company owed not a little of their success to the very fine scenic effects produced by Mr. G. Duncan. The scenes were real works of art and gave the proper picturesque setting to the historic drama. Mrs. Baxter also is entitled to a meed of praise. In the difficult task of training the younger members she did not spare herself and it is no idle compliment to say that her inspiration was a great factor in the happy ending to two or three months' hard work.

When the large audience which attended on Saturday night entered the Reading Room they were confronted with a handsome painting on the drop curtain. This, another of Mr. Duncan's excellent contributions, was a representation of the Docks as they are seen from the harbour. Punctually the curtain was rung up, disclosing a very pretty village green. The hearty plaudits of the auditors encouraged the performers who gradually settled down to their work. Two changes and then the scene was Glasgow Green. Soon the protagonists appeared, and when it was seen that they had an intelligent conception of their parts it was realised that nothing but success could follow. True, the point of much of the dialogue was lost to those unfamiliar with the Doric, but the gesture and demeanour of the actors helped to overcome that difficulty. The ease and composure of the principals made successful the opening scenes in which there is not much movement and as the play proceeded and the dramatic situations were skilfully developed the enthusiasm of the auditors became unbounded. Everybody felt the "grip" of the play. The "auld Scots tongue" was music to the ear of many of Scotia's sons and daughters, the reels and the dances made them feel light of foot, the sight of the tartan warmed their hearts, and the songs stirred the slumbering feelings of love for the dear old homeland, while the fiery speeches of the valiant Rob Roy roused the patriotic ardour of Highlander and Lowlander alike. Even the unfortunate Fasnachts felt the glamour of the free life of the clan that was "nameless by day," and must have felt a greater sneaking regard for the wild Highlander than for the dour Lowlander with his thrifty ways and money making habits. The play was well mounted and splendidly performed, and afforded an entertainment to describe which only encomiums could be employed.

The central figure was of course the bold Rob Roy. This part was well taken by Mr. J. D. Logan. Stout, and thick set he looked the typical chief of the landless Macgregors, vigorous, dashing and daring, despising weavers and spinners, but a man of his word. An impersonation calling for no little skill was that of Bailie Nicol Jarvie. In this rôle Mr. J. Menzies was perfectly at home. In make up and phraseology his exposition was excellent. He was particularly effective in the famous inn scene where the worthy bailie seizes a red hot poker to defend himself against the inhospitable Highlanders, and he was very real in the encounter with the terrible Helen Macgregor. Altogether a better Bailie Nicol Jarvie could hardly have been wished for. Mr. R. H. Baxter took the heroic part of Francis Osbaldistone, and in his picturesque garb made a brave show. He had a fine set off in Mr. W. J. Crawford as Rashleigh Osbaldistone, who personified the impetuous and revengeful cousin very cleverly indeed. An excellent Dougal Cratur was supplied by Mr. H. S. Wynne, who was whimsical, comical, pathetic and tearful as demanded. The funny element comes from this faithful henchman and Mr. Wynne was by no means disappointing. Another clever performance was given by Mr. J. G. Garraway as Andrew Fairservice, but the lack of appropriate costume somewhat detracted from his work. Mr. D. Keith looked a braw Highlandman and acquitted himself well as the MacStuart and had an admirable companion in the person of Mr. J. D. Morrison as Captain Thornton. Associated with them was Mr. G. White who proved himself a dignified realistic Major Thornton, while Messrs. F. Simonds, H. Blackledge, and J. Ramsay were very successful in their respective parts of Sir Frederick Vernon, Mr. Owen, and Saunders Wylie. Mrs. Baxter appeared as Helen Macgregor and gave an excellent interpretation of the Highland amazon. Her lines were admirably spoken, her gestures were skilful and supplementary, and her acting was very powerful. Particularly was this true of the scene where she greets the intruding Lowlanders and orders them to be put to death, and again when she spurns her two sons because they escaped when their father was captured by the soldiery. She was tense, passionate and revengeful, filled with love for the country in which she lived and smarting under a sense of the wrongs which the Macgregors had suffered. In a word she was an ideal Helen Macgregor. The greatest praise is due to this lady who at the last moment also took the part of Diana Vernon in the place of Mrs. White, who unfortunately was not well enough to be present. Mrs. Baxter's Diana Vernon was as finished a production as her own original part of Helen Macgregor, and few in the audience were aware that Diana Vernon and Helen Macgregor were one. Mrs. Baxter's reading of the somewhat mystical and fatalistic character of the heroine was most sympathetic, and the woes of the decadent house of Vernon became very real in her hands. The minor parts were well taken, there being a number of Highlanders, Lennox troopers and English soldiers on the stage at times, making a very fine picture.

The drama itself was interspersed with a number of solos and choruses. Mrs. Baxter sang "Wi' a hundred pipers an' a" and "Somebody" exceedingly well and Mr. Baxter received great applause for his rendering of Burn's song "Of a' the airts the wind can blaw." Mrs. Duncan gave a very acceptable solo, and Miss L. Logan was deservedly applauded for her rendering of "Whistle and I'll come tae ye, my Lad." Messrs. Keith, Morrison, and Menzies also won additional honours as vocalists. The choruses and laments were well rendered and the orchestral accompaniments were welcomed. A much appreciated feature was the Highland dance in which Misses L. Logan, Robson, Neave, Parker, Taylor and Messrs. Garraway and Ramsay took part under the direction of Mr. C. W. Alexander and the bagpiping of Mr. B. G. MacEwan. The chorus was composed of Mesdames Ramsay, Punccheon, Turner and Smith, Misses Taylor, Robson, L. Logan, L. Neave and A. Logan, and Messrs. Nicholls, Bolton, Lockhead, Clements, Melbye, etc. Mrs. Wynne presided at the piano. The cast was as under:

CAST.

Rob Roy Macgregor Campbell	Mr. J. Logan.
Bailie Nicol Jarvie	Mr. J. Menzies.
Rashleigh Osbaldistone	Mr. W. J. Crawford.
Francis Osbaldistone	Mr. R. H. Baxter.
Sir Frederick Vernon	Mr. F. Simonds.
Captain Thornton	Mr. J. D. Morrison.
Dougal Cratur	Mr. H. S. Wynne.
Mr. Owen	Mr. H. Blackledge.
Major Galbraith	Mr. G. White.
Mac Stuart	Mr. D. Keith.
Saunders Wylie	Mr. J. Ramsay.
Andrew Fairservice	Mr. J. G. Garraway.
Sergeant	Mr. J. Punccheon.
Hamish	Master T. Logan.
Robert	A. Logan.
Diana Vernon	Mrs. G. White.
Mattie	Mrs. Duncan.
Martha	Miss E. Parker.
Jean McAlpine	Mrs. Garraway.
Helen Macgregor	Mrs. Baxter.

Highlanders, Travellers, Lennox Troopers,
English Soldiers, &c.

ARRIVAL OF LORD LI.

ENTERTAINED AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Lord Li, the new Chinese Ambassador to Great Britain, arrived here by the German mail on Oct. 9th. The Customs launch *Kowloon* conveyed him from the steamer to Blake Pier, where a guard of honour from the Middlesex Regiment was drawn up. Here he was met by a number of leading Chinese and Government officials and entering a vice regal chair, was conveyed to Government House, where he was entertained at dinner by H.E. the Governor and Lady Lugard. Among the guests introduced to his Lordship, and who dined at Government House, were:—H.E. Wu Ting-fang, Chinese Minister to Washington, Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Mr. Justice Wise, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Captain and Mrs. Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Brewin, Mr. Moreno, Mr. and Mrs. Pereira, Dr. and Mrs. Jordan, Dr. and Miss Sanders, Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. Wei Yut, General Broadwood, Capt. Bonham, Commodore Stokes, Mr. Blanchflower, Mr. W. R. M. de Parr, Mr. Fung Wa-shuen, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Ho Chak-sheng, Mr. Swart, Mr. and Mrs. Volpicelli, Major and Mrs. Chitty, Major and Mrs. Stephenson, Major Parker, Dr. and Mrs. Tait, Lieut. Comm. Ramber, Lieut. Comm. Darwall, Captain de Horsa, Lieut. Comm. Stevenson, Rev. and Mrs. Pearse, Mr. and Mrs. Moxon, and Mr. Leung Pui-kai.

INTERPORT RIFLE SHOOTING.

HONGKONG'S GOOD SCORE: SINGAPORE DEFEATED.

It can safely be said that since 1899 when the interport shooting contest was inaugurated, interest in this annual event has steadily increased. As far as Hongkong is concerned the eighteenth shoot, which took place at the King's Park range on October 12th, was of more than ordinary interest, by reason of the fact that a practically new team, with a good reputation, was firing for the honour of the Colony. And that they acquitted themselves well, reference to the detailed scores will prove. Singapore's score, as previously announced, was 929, 28 more than Hongkong's total last year. The local representatives, however, also excelled their previous performance and concluded with a score of 938, which places them nine points ahead of Singapore. Shanghai and Penang have yet to shoot, and although the chance of the latter team is not considered extra good, the Northerners may give Hongkong a "good go" for the shield. The shooting on Saturday was at the 200, 500 and 600 yards ranges seven shots and a sighter at each range. Bright sunshiny weather prevailed, and the conditions were most favourable, the only wind being a slight rear one. There was one possible for the day, made by Lapeley at the 500 yards range. This rifleman also made the best individual score—100, Sayer being second with 98 and Pidgeon third with 97. As before the arrangements were in the capable hands of Lieut. M. S. Northcote, and the umpires were Major

Chapman, V.D., Major Macdonald, Captain Thomson, R.G.A., and Mr. E. S. Carruthers. The scores were:—

200 YARDS.	
Captain G. P. Lammert * ...	(4) 444544-29
Sergeant R. Lapsley * ...	(5) 554454-31
Corporal Marshall * ...	(5) 444545-31
Gunner J. C. Coles * ...	(5) 554445-32
Mr. A. Jenkins * ...	(4) 455555-34
Mr. J. H. Pidgeon * ...	(4) 454455-31
Mr. J. C. Gow * ...	(5) 445545-32
Q. M. S. English † ...	(3) 444543-28
Sergt. Sayers † ...	(4) 554544-32
Sergt. Lawrence †† ...	(3) 555445-32

Total ... 312

500 YARDS.	
Lammert ...	(5) 454555-33
Lapsley ...	(4) 555555-35
Marshall ...	(4) 343455-27
Coles ...	(5) 555444-31
Jenkins ...	(5) 342545-28
Pidgeon ...	(4) 555345-32
Gow ...	(2) 545444-31
English ...	(3) 345445-29
Sayers ...	(5) 455455-33
Lawrence ...	(5) 553455-32

Total ... 311

600 YARDS.	
Lammert ...	(4) 444544-29
Lapsley ...	(5) 555555-34
Marshall ...	(4) 554355-32
Coles ...	(5) 554545-30
Jenkins ...	(2) 554454-32
Pidgeon ...	(5) 555554-34
Gow ...	(5) 534453-27
English ...	(3) 555335-31
Sayers ...	(5) 554555-33
Lawrence ...	(6) 554545-23

Total ... 315

AGGREGATE.				
	200	500	600	Total
Lapsley ...	31	35	34	100
Sayers ...	32	33	33	98
Pidgeon ...	31	32	34	97
* Lawrence ...	32	32	33	97
* Jenkins ...	34	28	32	94
Coles ...	32	31	30	93
Lammert ...	29	33	29	91
Marshall ...	31	27	32	90
Gow ...	32	31	27	90
English ...	28	29	31	88

Grand Total ... 938

* Hongkong Volunteers.

** Volunteer Reserves.

† Third Middlesex Regiment.

†† Royal Engineers.

The complete record is as follows:—

1889: Shanghai, 819; Singapore, 777; Hongkong, 774.
 1890: No match.
 1891: Hongkong, 867; Shanghai, 830; Singapore, 741.
 1892: Hongkong, 835; Shanghai, 810; Singapore, 752.
 1893: Hongkong, 822; Shanghai, 802; Singapore, 768.
 1894: Hongkong, 823; Singapore, 817; Shanghai, 760.
 1895: Singapore, 934; Shanghai, 903; Hongkong, 879.
 1896: Hongkong, 916; Shanghai, 900; Singapore, 870.
 1897: Singapore, 934; Hongkong, 916; Shanghai, 860.
 1898: Hongkong, 934; Singapore, 923; Shanghai, 893.
 1899: Hongkong, 952; Singapore, 926; Shanghai, 887.
 1900: Hongkong, 930; Singapore, 909; Shanghai, 900.
 1901: Hongkong, 901; Singapore, 884; Shanghai, 841; Penang, 721.
 1902: Shanghai, 926; Singapore, 893; Hongkong, 870; Penang, 871.
 1903: Singapore, 927; Shanghai, 915; Hongkong, 891; Penang, 750.
 1904: Singapore, 919; Hongkong, 919; Shanghai, 908.
 1905: Hongkong, 923; Shanghai, 889; Singapore, 800.
 1906: Shanghai, 936; Singapore, 909; Hongkong, 891; Penang, 821.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to the following Ordinance:—Ordinance No. 10 of 1907, entitled—An Ordinance for giving to a Foreign Company called the Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij certain facilities for carrying on its business in the Colony.

COMPANIES.

HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO. LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. was held at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s office, King's Building, on Oct. 9th. Hon. Mr. H. Keswick presided and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. A. G. Wood, G. H. Medhurst, A. Cousland, A. Haupt, A. J. Raymond, C. R. Lenzmann, C. Fuchs (directors), Hon. Mr. E. Osborne (secretary), and Messrs. P. C. Potts and Ho Fook.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting, and the following resolutions which were submitted for confirmation:—

1.—That the capital of the Company be increased from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 by the creation of 20,000 new shares of \$50 each.

2.—That such new shares be issued at par and be offered to those persons who are registered as shareholders of the Company on 1st December, 1907, in the proportion of one new share for every complete two shares held by them on 1st December, 1907.

3.—That the amount due for the new shares shall be called up on 31st December, 1907.

The CHAIRMAN moved that the resolutions as read be confirmed.

Mr. POTTS seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN:—Thank you gentlemen, that is all the business of the meeting.

WILLIAM POWELL, LIMITED.

The sixth ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in William Powell, Ltd., was held at the Company's offices, Alexandra Buildings, at noon on October 12th. Mr. E. H. Hinds presided, and there were also present Messrs. H. Eyre (manager), G. C. Moxon, H. Jillings, J. A. Seth and J. M. Wong.

The MANAGER having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts for the past year's working having been in your possession for some days, I will, with your permission, follow the usual custom and consider them read. You will notice that the net amount at credit of profit and loss account is \$2,641.97 which it is proposed to deal with by writing off stock \$1,500, bad and doubtful debts \$1,099.19 and to carry the balance forward. You will also notice that your directors recommend that the sum of \$4,500 standing to the credit of equalization of dividend fund be absorbed and that the stock be written down accordingly. This item having been invested in the business of the Company, is not of a liquid nature, and, presuming that it was utilized for the purpose of paying a dividend, it would make our indebtedness to the Bank larger by this amount. On these grounds we trust it will meet with your approval. It would perhaps be as well to state that the amount at credit of investments represents 5 shares in the Union Insurance Society of Canton; these were bought for the purpose of obtaining the bonus on contributions to shareholders. The dividend and bonus more than covers the interest on this amount, whilst the present market value is considerably in excess of that appearing in the account. Your directors very much regret that they cannot recommend the payment of a dividend; business throughout the Colony has been abnormally slack but, notwithstanding that we have had to meet increased competition, it is gratifying to know that our turnover has been almost equal to the previous year, a proof that our store maintains its standing and popularity, and we have every reason to hope that with changes and economies which have been effected, the Company will return to a dividend paying stage next year. Our manager who has just returned from Europe informs us that we are well stocked with up to date goods, and with the selections he has made at home of fancy articles, we are in a position to cope with the demand which is sure to come so soon as this wave of depression has passed over. Gentlemen, that is all I have to say, but I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may wish to put.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. WONG seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. WONG proposed the reelection of Messrs. E. H. Hinds and G. C. Moxon as directors.

The proposition was seconded by Mr. EYRE, and confirmed.

Mr. Percy Smith was reappointed auditor on the motion of Mr. MOXON seconded by Mr. JILLINGS.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentleman, that concludes the meeting. I am very sorry not to be able to add that dividend warrants will be handed to you on application, but I hope next time we meet we shall be in a better position. Thank you for your attendance.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-sixth ordinary meeting on 25th October reads:

The General Agents and Consulting Committee beg to submit to the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1906.

1906 Account.—The amount standing to the credit of this account is \$486,939.27, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of \$20 a share, absorbing \$200,000.

The balance of \$286,939.27 it is recommended be employed in the formation of an account to be called "Underwriting Suspense Account" and to further augment this by the transfer of \$115,000.00 from the reserve fund. The reserve fund will then stand at \$1,560,000.00 and the underwriting suspense account at \$401,939.27.

Consulting Committee.—Since the last meeting Mr. D. M. Nissim resigned his seat on leaving Hongkong and Mr. E. Shellim was invited to fill the vacancy.

The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. F. Maitland, H. P. White, E. Shellim and G. C. Moxon retire, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. H. Percy Smith and A. R. Lowe.

Mr. W. H. Potts, one of the auditors elected at the last ordinary meeting, having left the Colony, the consulting committee invited Mr. A. R. Lowe to fill the vacancy. In accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association the appointment has to be submitted for approval at the next ordinary meeting.

Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. W. H. Potts being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Agents.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

For the year 1906.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—10,000 shares of \$250 each			
\$2,500,000 of which \$50 per share has been paid up	500,000.00		
Reserve fund	1,675,000.00		
Re-insurance fund	219,058.37		
Outstanding dividends	10,853.00		
Accounts payable	178,263.52		
Balance of working account, 1906	486,939.27		

\$3,070,133.16

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	12,363.87		
Fixed deposits, with banks in Hongkong	235,000.00		
Mortgages on property in Hongkong and Shanghai	2,185,094.07		
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., debentures	66,666.67		
Chinese Imperial Government Loan, 1886	40,658.17		
United States Bonds, (4 per cent. Loan, 1925)	400,000.00		
Japanese Government Gold Loan	47,000.83		
Japanese Government deposit.—			
Consolidation bonds	\$56,066.04		
Imperial bonds	12,791.36		
War bonds	23,993.15		

92,850.55

\$3,070,133.16

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1906.		\$	c.
Losses and claims paid	1,237,742.85		
Charges, including directors', auditors' and survey fees, agents expenses, &c.	85,839.67		
Commissions	127,207.52		
Exchange	11,587.56		
Balance as above	486,939.27		

\$1,969,336.97

Amount brought forward from last account	\$ c.
Net premia received, less returns and re-insurances	233,638.49
Interest	1,547,618.36
Transfer fees	218,009.12
	71.00
	\$1,999,336.97

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LD.

The eleventh ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the Dairy Farm Co., Ltd. was held at the Company's Depot, No. 2, Lower Albert Road, on the 14th October. Mr. F. Maitland presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. H. Osborne, Dr. G. W. Noble, Messrs. E. H. Hinds, J. Walker (directors), Mr. Manuk (acting secretary), A. Stevenson and Chan Tong.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been in your hands some days, and, with your permission, I will adopt the usual course and take them as read. During the period under review we have been unfortunate in having two serious attacks of sickness among the cattle which caused your Manager, Mr. Walker, and Directors much anxiety; however we are now quite over it and the herd is well and healthy. Every precaution is taken to keep out disease and our thanks are due to your Manager for his special exertions during trying times. Notwithstanding this drawback, our policy of writing down our assets and building up a reserve from profits followed for many years past has gone a long way towards enabling us to place before you a by no means bad account, and I am glad to tell you that all our subsidiary businesses are now on a paying basis and help to augment our profits to an appreciable degree. It is our desire to place before our customers the purest of milk and cream and the best obtainable of butter, cheese, hams, bacon, chickens, capons, Dairy fed pork and Australian frozen meat. Our Secretary was granted leave of absence for eight months and he should return in a few weeks. Mr. Manuk has acted in his stead and has given your Directors satisfaction. I trust you will approve of the appropriations as set forth in the accounts and report. Your Directors, after careful thought, decided to discontinue Fire and Typhoon Insurance except Fire Insurance on the Town Depot and \$5,000 of the profits have been earmarked to start a Fire and Typhoon Insurance Fund. Our risks are well scattered and a saving of about \$2,000 per annum in premia will be effected. It is recommended that a sum not less than \$2,000 be added to the Typhoon and Fire Fund each year out of the profits. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and account as presented.

Mr. STEVENSON seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

The retiring directors, Messrs. F. Maitland and E. H. Hinds, were reelected on the motion of Mr. WALKER seconded by Mr. CHAN TONG.

Mr. STEVENSON proposed the reelection of Mr. W. H. Potts as auditor.

Mr. WALKER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you gentlemen, for your attendance. Dividend warrants are ready now on application.

According to the extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory during the month of September the average maximum temperature was 85.1 and the minimum 76.6 deg. There were 19,465 inches of rain and 187.9 hours of sunshine.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 13 of 1907.—An Ordinance to limit the imposition of punishment by public exposure in the stocks; Ordinance No. 14 of 1907.—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Four million nine hundred and ninety-two thousand nine hundred and fifty-three Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1908; Ordinance No. 15 of 1907.—An Ordinance to prevent the Publication of Seditious Matter.

THE EVOLUTION OF HONGKONG.

[Written for the Daily Press.]

(Continued from last week.)

II.

On the accession of K'ienlung, for a time under that able monarch's instructions things went on better, and had the Company only exercised a little more discretion and refused to permit its representatives to be treated as inferiors, affairs would not have needed the rough handling that they subsequently required. The year 1741 witnessed a notable incident, which judiciously treated might have altered the whole current of affairs, and possibly rendered unnecessary the occupation of Hongkong; this was the visit of H. M. S. Centurion, the first British man of war to enter a Chinese port with the celebrated Commodore Anson, afterwards Lord Anson in command. Anson had just, the first of British captains of men of war, completed his perilous voyage from the coast of South America where he had been the terror of the Spaniards, and had captured many of their ships: he had, however lost all his ships but one, and his crews had been reduced to a fraction of their original force by scurvy. Captain Anson was in no mind then to treat, and finding the Chinese disposed to prevent him entering the port on the plea that "it was contrary to the law of China for a man of war to enter her ports" he gave the authorities notice that if within the twenty four hours a permit did not arrive, he would arm his boats and go up without. Naturally the required permit arrived in time. The Centurion was sadly in need of refitting after her long voyage, and Chinese-like obstacles were thrown in the way till overcome by Anson's firmness. When at Canton he announced his intention to the Supracargoes of visiting officially the T'sungtu. Unfortunately instead of supporting the demand they, in the manner impressed them by the methods of the Company, begged him to desist, representing that the British trade would be put to hazard by such a step!

The Chinese were more correct when Anson having left Canton, returned with his prize of the Spanish galleon; they, however spoiled their case by demanding fees for the Centurion "and her prize" to which the Commodore would not agree, but went up to Canton with his boat's crew in full uniform with the intention of arranging affairs with the viceroy direct. Unfortunately he permitted himself to be again talked over by the merchants and the Supracargoes who promised him that no obstacle should be placed in the way of his obtaining what stores he required. He, however, was made to pay for every thing he had before it was put on board; even so, finding that his stores were being delayed, he sent up a letter by an officer demanding an audience, it curiously happened that the next day an extensive fire broke out in the city, to extinguish which Anson sent a number of his crew; ingeniously the Viceroy took advantage of this to send him a letter of thanks, and invite him to come and pay him a visit: the Commodore accepted the invitation, and was graciously thanked, but when he introduced the subject of the delays the Viceroy turned the conversation in another direction.

Instead of seeing how much there was to gain from the occasional visit of a British man of war, and the opportunity it afforded of placing their complaints directly before the higher authorities, the Court of Directors viewed these visits with jealousy. Naturally the officers in command refused to be treated with contempt, and alleged that as representatives of an independent sovereign they were entitled to rank on equal footing with the officers of the Chinese Empire. The Court saw the matter in a different light, and directed its committee to inform the Hong Merchants,—who were now the only medium of communication with the officials, the Hoppo having refused any personal interview for some years back,—that the King's officers were out of their control, and they were not in any way to be held responsible for their acts! The Chinese officials could

hardly have been human, much less Chinese did they fail to see the joke of the situation, and turn it against the servants of the Company. They were not really desirous of stopping the trade, as one and all had paid heavy bribes at Peking for their posts, and the stop page even for a season would mean ruin to all. For the same reason they took advantage of every chance opportunity to increase the scale of their exactions, while continually holding over the heads of the unfortunate Supracargoes the threat of closing the port altogether, did they dare to question the propriety of any charge or command. The Supracargoes were thus between two fires, equally afraid of complaining to the Directors or officials, more especially the former who held the power of dismissal, and were not loth to exercise it.

The great opportunity was the occurrence of an accidental homicide. There never had been any difficulty about the question of extraterritoriality; in fact, as we have seen, it was one of the regular points always agreed on at the commencement of each season. The Chinese have never been desirous of intermeddling in the private laws of any nation with whom they have had dealings; and have rather forced on them extraterritoriality, as in the case of the Arab traders of the eighth century, than opposed it. But the death of a Chinese was always too good an opportunity for exaction to be missed. Asked as to the laws of China, they had the answer ready that they were too voluminous to transcribe, but they would be happy to supply the foreigner with as much of them as referred to murder. Accordingly the Committee was duly supplied with a list of the ancient punishments for murder, and given to believe that this was the actual law as practised in China. Under cover of this the Mandarins, through their chosen mouthpieces, the Hong Merchants, without compromising themselves were able to administer all manner of insults on the Supracargoes and foreigners generally, both open and concealed, in a way perfectly comprehended by the populace, though not immediately seen by the foreigner against whom they were directed. Suffice it here to say that the disabilities became so great, and the insults so pointed that the committee sought to escape by opening a clandestine trade at Amoy or Ningpo, the latter called Limpo in the records. Like all the other undertakings of the Company this also was mismanaged. The agents forgot to keep their own council, and every step was known beforehand by their Linguists, and through them communicated to the local officials, who through their influence at Peking were able to frustrate every step in advance; with the result that so far from improving the tyranny and espionage went from bad to worse.

Under these circumstances, a notable expedient was tried, which had it been conducted with a little more discretion and knowledge would probably have been a success. The King's Government which it had been the fashion of the Court and the Committee to vilify, and hold up as the cause of the ill-treatment, was appealed to; and it decided to send out a special Embassy from the King to the Hwangti. Lord Macartney, a nobleman apparently well fitted for the task, but hampered in every way by the instructions which had been drawn up after long consultation with the Directors of the Company, was appointed chief, and the expedition sailed from Portsmouth, amidst high hopes on the 26th September 1792. Every care had, however, been taken by the Company under the influence of its false friends the Hong merchants to ensure beforehand the failure of the Embassy, whose success would in the minds of both officials and merchants at Canton have been equivalent to their downfall; and money in the way of bribes, direct or indirect, was not spared at Peking or elsewhere. The bungling commenced before the arrival of the Embassy at Batavia, where it had called to explain its objects to the Dutch, who had been unfriendly in the first instance. On his arrival Lord Macartney had received despatches from the Commissioners at Canton who described the steps they had taken; these consisted in the delivery of a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Commissioners had applied to two of "principal Chinese merchants to solicit an audience from the Foo-yuen in the absence of the Viceroy, to deliver into his

hands the letter. Those merchants readily guessed that the letter related to the Embassy of which the rumour had spread amongst them; and expressed some degree of apprehension lest the measure might in its consequences affect the trade, property or personal security of the native merchants of Canton. The motives of the Embassy were anxiously enquired into on the part of the officers of government as a preliminary step to the audience required by the Commissioners, who replied that nothing further was intended than to effect a stricter friendship between the courts of London and Peking, and an increase of that intercourse which had been carried on for so many years to the advantage of both nations." What followed was characteristic: the Foo-yuen sent a message to learn from whom the letter came, and whether he was a servant of the King, and held office under his seal. The humiliating reply had to be given that he was no immediate servant of the Crown, but that the letter came with His Majesty's knowledge to announce the approach of the Ambassador. The end was that the audience could not be granted, but that the Foo-yuen would forward the letter if he were informed of its contents, but not otherwise. "As any contest about ceremony might have been followed by a refusal to receive the letter till an answer could be received from Peking, it was determined to deliver the letter in any manner that might be prescribed." It was with no small trouble and difficulty, adds that narrative, that the Hong merchants who were the only interpreters available could be got to comprehend its contents: "The want of a competent linguist, and the necessity of encouragement to attain the Chinese language were, perhaps, never so apparent as on this occasion." The affair ended in a promise that the letter should be forwarded to the Emperor, and the result made known to them through the Chinese merchants.

It would be of little interest to our readers to describe how the Embassy was entertained at Batavia, and how that woe-begone community for a time contrived to forget its immediate troubles, and take an interest in something more lively than the fever which annually more than decimated the unfortunate residents; but in due course the squadron sailed, intending only to take a look at Macao on its way to the Gulf of Pechili to see if there were any letters from home. In due course towards the end of June, the squadron anchored under lee of the Ladrões off Macao, and the Ambassador prepared to send his messenger on shore, when a curious incident occurred, the full import of which we, with fuller experience of Chinese ways can understand, but which escaped notice at the time. We quote Sir George Staunton:

"The squadron being now upon the confines of China, and the Ambassador about to send messengers to Macao, application was made to his Excellency by two native Chinese who had been companions of the interpreters, and to whom his Excellency had granted a passage in the Hindostan that they might be taken ashore by the same opportunity. They conducted themselves throughout the voyage with great propriety. One of them who was uncommonly expert in writing the Chinese character, had usefully assisted in the translation of papers into that language preparatory to the Ambassador's arrival in China. His Excellency wished to make him a compensation for his trouble; but tho' he had no means of subsistence beside a very scanty allowance from Rome, no efforts were able to persuade him to accept money or presents of any kind. He considered himself as under much obligation, not for the opportunity afforded him of returning to his native country, but for the civilities shown to him during the voyage. He felt both gratitude and esteem for the English nation; and ample justice would be done to its character in China were his opinions on the subject universally adopted by his countrymen."

The innocent Chinaman was, of course, in the service of the Canton officials who had thus obtained possession of the secrets of the Embassy. The use they made of the information will be seen lower down. With him went on shore his companion and likewise one of the two engaged interpreters, who professed to have fears for his safety should he be noticed on board. The Commissioners informed his Excellency that word had been received from Peking that the Embassy would be honourably

received at Peking, and pilots would be in waiting to conduct the ships and the members of the Embassy to Tientsin, and thence latter on to Peking; adding that the Emperor himself had stated that, as so distinguished an officer had come so far to visit him, he must be received in a distinguished manner, and answerable to the occasion." It is likely enough that this portion of the tale was correct and that the Emperor was really not at the bottom of what afterwards occurred.

The affair was practically as good as one of life or death at Canton, for the success of the Embassy meant at least the dismissal and degradation of the Viceroy and the leading provincial officials who had already gone so far that retreat was impossible; so that we can readily understand that every means that money could buy was pressed into the service. They had the inestimable advantage of having penetrated to the innermost secrets of the Envoy, and knew perfectly how far his instructions would permit him to go. The blunder of the Chairman's letter, without official instructions from the King was taken the fullest advantage of, and with a monarch so stringent in maintaining his prerogative as Kienlung probably more than anything else contributed to the fiasco.

[To be continued next week.]

PARCELS POST BETWEEN JAPAN AND HONGKONG.

The Japan Official Gazette publishes the Parcels Post Treaty concluded between the Japanese Minister of Communications, and the Director of the Postal Administration at Hongkong. The Treaty consists of eighteen articles. It is to supersede the old Convention dated Tokyo December 26th, 1879, and Hongkong, December 9th, 1879, and is to come into force on a date to be determined by the two authorities later.

The salient points of the Treaty are that the parcels posted in Japan for Hongkong must not exceed 1 kwan 320 momme in weight, and those posted in Hongkong for Japan 11 English pounds. The parcels may have a declared value or may be insured up to 3 000 francs. The postal charges are as follows:—

	Not exceeding 360 momme of 3 lbs.	Over 360 momme or 3 lbs. and under 840 momme or 7 lbs.	Over 840 momme or 7 lbs. and under 1,320 momme or 11 lbs.
Charges for transportation by land in Japan	.50	.75	1.00
Charges for transportation by sea between Japan and Hongkong	.50	1.00	1.50
Charges for transportation on land at Hongkong	.25	.50	.75
Total	1.25	2.25	3.25

The account between the two Post Offices in regard to the charges for parcels, value declared or insured, is to be fixed at the rate of 25 centimes per every 300 francs or fraction thereof as follows:— dispatch office, 10c.; receiving office, 5c.; and maritime transportation, 10c. The dispatch office may also charge a registration fee not exceeding 25 centimes.

The following articles are not allowed to be forwarded by parcels post:—Correspondence, living animals, articles the import or export of which are prohibited by the Customs House or by the laws of either of the contracting parties, and also articles of an explosive or inflammable nature.

In case of loss, theft or damage done to parcels, except in cases resulting from irresistible force, either the sender or receiver of the parcel may claim damage equivalent to the actual value of the articles. In all cases the damages payable shall not exceed 25 francs, or must not exceed the value declared in case of the value having been declared. On the payment of a sum not exceeding 25 centimes in advance the senders of parcels may obtain a delivery certificate.

The Treaty is dated Tokyo, July 19th, 1907, and Hongkong, August 1st, 1907.

EARLY HISTORY OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS AT AMOY.

The history of the Native Custom House in Amoy is of peculiar interest, for not only does it embody the records of the ancient foreign trade of this part of China, but with it is also interwoven the story of the rise and development of the Foreign Customs and the growth of the modern treaty port.

Amoy must be taken as the successor and representative of the mediæval ports of Zaitun, concerning which Yule gives this note: "Zayton, Zaitun, Zeithun, Cayton, the great port of Chinese trade with the West in the Middle Ages, that from which Polo sailed on his memorable voyage that at which Ibn Batuta landed, and from which Marignolli sailed for India, is mentioned by nearly all the authors who speak of China up to the fourteenth century inclusive. A veil falls between China and Europe on the expulsion of the Mongols, and when it rises in the sixteenth century, Zayton has disappeared." ["Cathay and the Way Thither," Vol. I., p. 108.]

Zaitun had indeed disappeared; and so completely, that a controversy has raged over the identification of the site. Into the details of this it is needless to enter, for the weight of evidence—to the mind of the present writer at least—sustains the plea advocated stoutly by the late Mr. George Phillips for many years; that the modern district city of Hailong situated at the entrance to the Changchow River, formerly called Goh Kong and the port to the city of Changchow until supplanted by Amoy—occupies the site of the famous mediæval town. "After the expulsion of the Mongols from China, foreign commerce still flourished at this Fukien port, and it was at its zenith about the middle of the 15th century, which it maintained till 1586, when, owing to Japanese raids, it gradually declined." [Phillips: "Two Mediæval Fukien Trading Ports," p. 5.]

In the days of Zaitun's greatness Amoy was only one of Marco Polo's "isles of the ocean." It was sparsely populated, and the prey of the native pirate and the Japanese sea-rover. Its birth as a place of commercial importance may be said to be coincident with the arrival of the foreign vessels early in the 17th century, the establishment of the Dutch trading posts in Formosa, and the consolidation of the Koxinga power. In the throes with which the mainland was convulsed during the expiring years of the Ming, foreign trade naturally found that it could best be carried on in the port governed by the strong hands of the Koxinga family; the Zaitun, or Hai-ting, trade, which had long been waning, shifted here, the easy approach and the natural advantages of the harbour soon won appreciation, and here the trade has remained.

Foreign trade under the new conditions was ushered in by the Portuguese, who put in a appearance here not long after their first arrival in Canton in 1516. The Changchow and Chuanchowfu merchants seem to have been eager to trade, and intercourse was carried on at the island of Gōsū outside Tsingtau, at the entrance to Amoy Harbour. But the official mind was strongly set against it, and in 1547 it is recorded that some 90 Chinese merchants were beheaded for the offence of trading with foreigners. Commerce, however, no doubt went on clandestinely.

After the Portuguese came the Spaniards, who in 1575 sent a mission from Manila to Foochow with the view of obtaining permission to trade from the Viceroy. In this they were unsuccessful, but a steady trade was established by junk between Amoy and Manila. "This important trade employed 30 to 40 Chinese junks running constantly between Amoy and Manila. Silk, porcelain, and other products were carried amounting to a million and a half dollars in gold annually. At that period there were more than fourteen thousand Spaniards in Mexico who were dependent upon the raw silk of China to weave the celebrated fabrics so much in vogue at that time. The Spanish vessels carried this merchandise from Manila to Mexico. So extensive was the intercourse with China that 20,000 Chinese had located in Manila." [Davis "Island of Formosa," p. 12, Note.] The Spaniards on their journey to Foochow anchored at Amoy, which they called Tan-su-so, the

local pronunciation of Chung-tso-so the name of the island during the Ming dynasty. "This Tan-su-so is a gallant and fresh town, of four thousand householders, and hath continually a thousand soldiers in garrison, and compassed about with a great and strong wall; and the gates fortified with plates of iron; the foundations of all the houses are of lime and stone, and the walls of lime and yearth and some of bricks: their houses within very fairly wrought, with great courts, their streets faire and brode all paved." ["Mendoxa," Vol. II, p. 44.]

The law at this time against a Chinese leaving his country, and against the admission of foreigners into China, was very strict, and when the Dutch first arrived in these waters, in 1604, they found great difficulties to contend with. So hostile were the Chinese measures that the Dutch Admiral, Wybrand van Warwyk, was compelled to leave the Pescadores. The Dutch attention was turned towards Japan, where permission to trade was obtained in 1611, and no further serious attempt on China was made until 1622. In that year a squadron of 14 ships arrived from Batavia, and took possession on the Pescadores, whence expeditions were sent over to Amoy to try to compel the Chinese to trade. The result was that open hostilities were carried on for two years, the Chinese resorting to every device to get rid of the unwelcome strangers. They were finally so far successful that the Dutch retired to Formosa in 1624, where they built forts and established themselves. From that time intercourse, though technically forbidden, was carried on chiefly at Little Quemoy and Go-ou, the merchants of the neighbourhood taking them cargoes of silk and sugar, much of which found its way to Japan and Batavia. The Dutch trade with Amoy was, of course, broken by their expulsion from Formosa by Koxinga in 1662. "The Dutch not only traded with the Chinese and Japanese in Formosa, but also sent their own ships to China and Japan to deal directly. Peter Nuits, the Dutch Governor, in his report on trade, stated there that silver was sent by junks from Taiwan to the mainland city of Amoy; sometimes to be remitted to their agents who resided there, sometimes to be given to the merchants who were to provide merchandise for the markets of Japan, India, and Europe. This could only be done with the connivance of the Governor of Foochow, and was very advantageous, for goods could thus be obtained so as to allow a greater profit than those delivered at Taiwan by the Chinese compradors. Also, when the time arrived for the departure from Taiwan of the Dutch ships for Japan or Batavia, if their cargoes were not complete, they were sent across to China by stealth, where they were filled up with goods, which were brought on board in great quantities and at a cheaper rate than they could be bought at Taiwan, the difference in the price of silk alone being some eight or ten taels per picul. If time allowed, these vessels returned to Taiwan; otherwise, they were sent direct to their destinations. The principal exports were raw silk and sugar to Japan, the amount of the latter being as much as 80,000 piculs in one year; silk piece good, porcelain, and gold to Batavia; while paper, spices, amber, tin, lead, and cotton were imported to Formosa, and, with the addition of Formosan products, such as rice, sugar, rattans, deer-horns, and drugs, were exported to China." [Davidson: "Island of Formosa," pp. 14, 15.]

The Koxinga power dates from 1626, when Cheng Chih-Lung the founder of this remarkable family, invaded and took Amoy. It was held by him, his still more famous son, Cheng Chéng-kung, "Koxinga," and his grandsons, until 1680, when it fell finally into the hands of the Manchu Government.

The Native Custom House in its modern form originates with the Manchu conquest. Tax-collecting stations on imports and exports had existed in Changchow and elsewhere from very ancient times, and the Cheng family had a system of its own for taxing trade. But the Custom House with which we are concerned was founded in 1685 upon the recommendation of Shih Lang the admiral who "conquered" Formosa after the collapse of the Koxinga power. The Custom House was first placed under the charge of a secretary of the provin-

cial board of revenue, who was changed yearly. In 1729 all the Fukien Customs stations were put under the Governor of the province, who entrusted the collection of duties to the Prefects and Taotais; but in 1738 all Customs affairs were made the care of the Tartar General. This arrangement still holds, and the Tartar General is represented in Amoy now by two Manchu deputies of military rank, one for the Foreign and one for the Native Customs, each of whom holds office for a year.

By the time the Manchu rule was established foreign trade had got quite a hold in Amoy, and this caused the Custom House to be the most lucrative in the province. What the takings were during the two centuries which elapsed before the Customs came under foreign control it is impossible to say. It was not in the interest of anyone to keep accurate records, and so long as Foochow received the stipulated quota or thereabouts, no embarrassing questions were asked. But there can be no doubt that as the country quieted down under the present dynasty the junk trade with abroad and with Northern China was very considerable, and there was a steady growth in foreign shipping, as powers gradually succeeded the early pioneers. In 1727 the interdiction on foreign trade was withdrawn, and it could henceforth be carried on openly by native vessels. From that year until the opening of the Foreign Custom House in Amoy in 1861, and the gradual replacing of the junk traffic by foreign sailing ships and steamers, must have been the halcyon days of the Native Customs. From 1861 onwards the Foreign Customs reaped the profits; the Native Customs led a quiet enfeebled existence, little observed or cared for by the foreigner and the commerce which he fostered, until, in 1901, much that was mysterious and obscure was to have light thrown upon it by the passing of the Natives to the control of the Foreign Customs—an arrangement by which the parent in its age fell to the care of the thriving child.—"Quinquennial Reports on Native Customs, I.M.C."

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

October 10th.

A COMMERCIAL CASE.

For the third time, I believe, a "commercial jury" has rendered the same decision in the case of the depositors in the Tai-loong Bank versus the Banco Nacional Ultramarino. It appears that just before the Tai-loong Bank suspended payment the Banco Ultramarino had sent to it about \$100,000. When the Chinese Bank closed its doors, the Banco Ultramarino, as the government Bank, paid itself in full out of the funds of the Chinese Bank. The other creditors of the insolvent Bank received in the liquidation only 10 per cent. of the money they had deposited, and they petitioned the Court to declare that the claim of the Banco Ultramarino was not a preferential claim; that the money should be refunded and that the Banco Ultramarino should share in the distribution as an ordinary creditor. Three juries have now declared in favour of the petitioners.

THE MACAO SEISMOGRAPH.

Two years ago, when the inhabitants of this city were alarmed by earthquake shocks, the Government purchased a seismograph. It may interest the public to know that the seven cases in which this delicate instrument is packed are still lying unopened in a godown. When is it likely to be fixed up? I might also ask whether it does this delicate machinery any good to be kept in the packing cases so long? It would not surprise me to learn, when the cases are opened, that some of the parts have become so rusted as to be worthless.

CRICKET FIGHTS.

The "cricket fight" season is with us and thousands of Chinese from the neighbouring districts have come to see the "sport," which takes place in houses situated in the Rua Central. The season is now about over, but many will remain for the Chinese festivities which take place next week. There has not been the same general interest taken in this festival as in former years. Every Chinaman has doubtless subscribed, but formerly each business section

organised its special show in the procession, and the friendly desire of one section to out the other tended to produce a really good show. This year one Committee makes itself responsible for the whole show, and it seems doubtful if this is a better arrangement.

TWO MORE DECREES.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT COUNCILS.

By command of H. I. M. the Empress Dowager Tze-hsi-tsun-yu, etc., we issued an Edict sanctioning the principles of a constitutional government for the country, the date for actually putting into force the Decree to depend upon the speed or tardiness of our subjects who shall be able to show a proper appreciation and knowledge of the benefits of the self government to be granted them. As a proof of the earnest wish of the Throne to give a constitution to the country, we have already commanded the establishment, as a first step to the desired end of Parliamentary representation, of an Imperial Assembly to Discuss Affairs of State (Izschényan). In this Imperial Assembly it will be possible to judge of the speeches and arguments that will be heard in the future Parliament, and their effectiveness or otherwise will entirely depend upon the nobility of thought and patriotic aims of the representations. It is evident, therefore, that the people must first be educated and taught that they must cultivate loyalty to Sovereign and love for Country as the groundwork of Knowledge for without Education how can the people obtain Knowledge? and without being given the opportunity of local self-government how can they obtain the requisite experience to govern the whole country? They must, moreover, eschew all evil thoughts that may lead the country into trouble and unrest. To bring this about a careful selection of men of integrity and honesty must be made to fill the ranks of town councils and local representation—men who have the interest and welfare of the majority in their hearts and are willing to work diligently for the good of their fellowmen. We, therefore, hereby command the Ministry of Education to draw up a scheme of universal education throughout the Empire and of the books that are to be studied in the schools thereof. We also command the Ministry of the Interior to draw up the scheme of local self-government for the Empire, and, having obtained our sanction, to have these two schemes promulgated by Imperial Rescript for the information of the whole country. The Viceroys and Governors of provinces will then be commanded to select the places where self-government is to be first tentatively tried. The Ministries named above will also make frequent inspections to find out whether our commands have been carried out or not, so that as early a date as possible may be arrived at for the granting of the Constitution and Parliamentary Representation to the country. Let us have tangible results and not merely hollow appearances. This is our earnest hope.

On the same date, September 30th, was also published a Decree of H. I. M., the Emperor, in compliance with the Command of the Empress Dowager stating that the Imperial Decree approving the principles of a constitutional government to the people was due to the initiative of the Sovereign who recognized the fact that the country is just fitted for such a form of Government. They must be impressed upon the minds of all high and low, officials and Commoners, and there must not be any misapprehensions on the subject. Officials have the right of government and direction of the affairs of the people, and they must work diligently and earnestly explaining to those around them the right and proper path that should be taken by all. The Ministries and Government offices in Peking, and Viceroys and Governor and their subordinates throughout the provinces, are commanded to lose no time in carefully selecting men of ability to explain the doctrine that the Emperor desires to grant a Constitution to the country with the Sovereign at the head; and an earnest effort must be made to study the systems of government of the various countries of the West. Those who have shown the ability to understand all this and to explain them to those around

them are to be specially recommended to the Throne for reward and promotion. Those who have been found to have been lax in their duties are to be censured and warned, so that all may work earnestly and bring those about them to the proper way of thinking. Those who misapprehend our intentions and lead their hearers in the wrong direction will be sternly dealt with and made a warning to others. Let these our commands be made known to every one in the Empire.—*N.O. Daily News.*

MANCHU AND CHINESE.

At Peking on September 27th, was published an Imperial Decree thus translated for the *North China Daily News*:—

We established our dynasty in this Country by feat of arms and in doing so at the time we put garrisons in various cities of the provinces to keep order therein. Since the pacification of the Country many years have passed, and in the meanwhile the members of our garrisons, having nothing to do, have become loafers and lazy men while at the same time they have become a heavy burden on the Country. Multiplying in members the younger generations were reared in poverty and want, having to depend only upon the allowances that had been granted by Imperial Clemency at the beginning of the dynasty, and having on the other hand never learned a trade or profession as did the common people around them to support themselves. It has therefore, now become an urgent necessity for our garrisons to find some means of gaining a livelihood and we hereby command our Viceroy and Governors to confer with the Tartar Generals and Manchu Lieutenant Generals of the said garrisons first to make a census of the men under them. These garrisons have their own stables and horse breeding grounds and farms. It is, therefore hereby commanded, that a set of regulations be drawn up without delay, and the lands in question be surveyed and divided up amongst these garrisons according to the number of members of each family, so that each family have enough land to cultivate sufficient for their individual support and sustenance. Those garrisons that had no horse breeding grounds or farms are to look to the local authorities of their town for the necessary lands. These are to be obtained by purchase and voluntary sale at the hands of the farmers around them. The prices to be paid to the farmers being in accordance with the scale of prices ruling at the time. These lands are to be cultivated by one out of every ten men or more of the garrisons in question each year, the number being increased gradually as time progresses; and the families who have taken up the land for agriculture are to hold them for generation after generation without break. No one will be allowed either to sell or mortgage his land. Those who take to farming will not be allowed to draw their rations as soldiers. The money thus saved will be made into a special fund. Bannermen who have become farmers must abide by the laws ruling amongst those around them. They are to be similar to the Chinese around them in every respect. Each family will have enough land to support its members, and the amount of land for each will be different in each province, according as the state of the country they live in may be a rich one or otherwise. The members of the garrisons who have taken up civilian lives will be made to learn trades and attend schools, and the authorities concerned are commanded to work earnestly and diligently in the matter, so that our Bannermen may have every opportunity offered them to gain a proper livelihood. The money required to start the farmers, and for such as desire to learn arts and handicrafts, shall be drawn from the usual funds and reserves for the support of the garrisons in question. We look to our Viceroys, Governors and Tartar Generals to use their best efforts and avoid being influenced by private interest in the performance of the duties in this respect. The Ministry of Finance is commanded to have ready the required money for this work, and let there be no jealousy nor racial distinctions. Let each one keep us in our object to treat our all subjects with equal kindness and clemency.

JAPAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE STOCK MARKET IN AUGUST.

Settling day for August constituted a bad record in the history of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the number of shares being less than 50,000—a figure which is 25,000 below the dullest settlement during the war. During the boom nine months ago many a day's transactions were larger than the total for last month, which shows to what extent the market has fallen off since the debacle of January. Though there are many good omens, the market remains stolidly depressed. Recently the Tokyo Electric Railway Co.—or electric tramway as it would be called in England—received the coveted and hard-fought-for sanction from the authorities to engage in electric lighting all over the city but, this had not the slightest effect on its scrip, which by the end of August had fallen two points, or as much as those of the Tokyo Electric Light Co. itself, which has hitherto held a practical monopoly and must be severely hit by the competition.

SEPTEMBER.

No one at the beginning of the current month looked for any improvement in the market and all conditions seem to have combined against it, from the weather to international affairs. The critical period in the life of the rice plant has passed, but we are still in doubt as to the actual crop that is likely to be harvested, owing to the uncertain weather and the unusually low temperature for this season. The rice crop more than anything else represents the wealth of Japan. Some weeks must yet elapse before the crops are harvested, and one can only hope fervently that the weather will become more normal and seasonable than it has been for the past month. It is fortunate that the two most valuable crops, rice and silk, showed splendid prospective results, much above average years, though both having been greatly injured by bad weather, the yield is expected to be only slightly above average years. Once the country becomes confident of this however, the effect will be seen in the improved conditions of trade and a rising stock market. It may be said that this is all the market is now waiting for, but at the time of writing there is no sign of a change for the better.

THE T. K. K.'S WITHDRAWAL.

The announcement that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha will withdraw its South American service is interesting in view of the new trans-Pacific lines that are projected. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha is now building five steamers for a service to Seattle and we read that a new American line is to start between Seattle, Vladivostok and Dairen. All this in addition to the increasing efforts of other companies to secure a profitable share of trade. It looks as if everybody will benefit excepting the shareholders of the shipping companies. In present years the 'Orient' has become eminently the theatre of commercial competition, but there seems to be something forced about it all. It does not resemble natural commercial growth and expansion of trade with a reasonable prospect of profits, but just ordinary speculation backed by the desire to develop trade. There are nowadays so many in the field that these adventures out of the path of steady progress seem to be considered necessary. Hence the T. K. K.'s dividend for last half year comes out of its reserves.

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND THE HAKODATE FIRE.

Investigation proved that the insurance companies were not by any means so heavily involved by the Hakodate fire as was first believed and from all accounts the companies have promptly or will speedily settle their liabilities. It has been rumoured that the Government would take drastic measures against those concerns shirking full settlement. This paternal attitude is not an uncommon one on the part of the Japanese Government in its relations with public companies, but if the companies do settle up fairly and squarely—in contrast to what happened after the San Francisco fire—then it may be put down as a good advertisement for the country, and will be carefully noted abroad. The losses

must severely affect the resources of several companies and weaken the best. It is probably in view of this that the manufacturers of Kyoto are now considering insuring with foreign concerns, as few Japanese companies could stand a repetition of the Hakodate disaster—which may come at any moment in cities built mainly of wood.

THE SALE OF INDECENT PICTURES.

A practice that has become the vogue since the war is the exchange of postcards and other correspondence between residents of Japan and England. The idea originated in this country, doubtless among that numerous class anxious to extend its knowledge of English. In at least one case the practice has been abused, for we read in the papers recently of a man in Osaka forwarding pornographic pictures to a private address in England. It may be in consequence of this exposure that a fresh campaign has been begun by the police against the sale of these pictures. The police of Tokyo have just succeeded in gathering in over 12,000 of them, some of which are valuable works of art (but for the sinister twin of the artists). The colour work, in which Japan excels, is excellent, and in looking over these confiscated pictures, one's chief regret is that the artists do not use their skill to better purpose, as that it can be exposed to the light of day. The pictures seized will be destroyed by order of the court.

THE JAPANESE LAKE DISTRICT.

Japan is increasing in popularity year by year as a holiday resort for China residents, and it is a matter of some difficulty to know how to spend the time most profitably and pleasantly. The great majority of visitors never fail to stay for a week or so at the favourite resorts of Mijanoshita or Hakone and generally ascending Fuji in the season, but as the mountain is only open for this purpose some two months of the year, this does not suit those who choose the spring or autumn for their visits—and better seasons could not be chosen. Within a day's journey of Mijanoshita is a beautiful lake district that is visited by only a very small proportion of tourists, presumably on account of its comparative inaccessibility. But it would be hard to find in the whole of Japan a country more charming than that lying to the north and west of Fuji Mountain. Here the gentle, flower bestrewn slopes of Fuji have many treasures to reveal—for the expenditure of a little trouble. The botanist would be delighted with the wealth of flowers and of her plants at all seasons of the year, with perhaps a brief exception during the months of January and February. Although there is no mountain climbing to be done in the ordinary sense of the word the tourist will insensibly reach an altitude of four or five thousand feet on these slopes and even the unscientific will be struck by the variation in the vegetation. In a day's trip through this flowery region the distribution of plants in relation to altitude can be observed more clearly than perhaps on any other mountain in Japan. Over a thousand species have been catalogued by the botanists, growing in forest and grassy plain, and besides there are vast tracts densely wooded, consisting of conifers and broad-leaved trees with a jungle of undergrowth, the very thought of which is transporting to the man accustomed to spend his days in crowded city and modern suburbia. Lying snugly between the forests and slopes is a pretty chain of lakes whose symmetry can only be seen from a high altitude—on the neighbouring mountains to the north of Fuji, for example. There is a chain of four lakes, and three of them have to be crossed, with pleasant forest walks in between, before the tourist arrives at a unique foreign hotel, built on the steep slope overlooking lake Shoji. Here excellent accommodation can be had. From this point there are views of Fuji to be obtained under varying conditions that cannot be fitly described. The Peerless Mountain never seemed so peerless as when watched from day to day, in the rising and the setting sun. It is a perpetual study in light and shade—solemn and grand under all conditions, in mist and in sunshine. From here only can Fuji be seen in all its grandeur, and then only by him who has time to spare.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 3rd October, 1907.—Business reported since the 3rd inst., is as under:—

	1907.	1906.
Settlements ...	1-Chests. 834	1-Chests. 2,930
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account ...	4,000	1,826

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 3rd October, 1906.

	1907.	1906.
HANKOW TEA. 1-Chests.	490,696	384,507
Settlements ...	20,326	70,526
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account ...	16,117	16,574

Arrivals ...	527,139	471,607
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	1907.	1906.
KIUKIANG TEA. 1-Chests.	181,558	158,018
Settlements ...	12,471	10,652
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account ...	3,356	2,527

Arrivals ...	197,383	171,197
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SILK.

From Messrs. F. C. Heffer's Report, dated Shanghai, October 2nd, 1907.—Telegrams report quiet markets at Home, and quote Gold Killing in London at 14/-. Raw Silk.—A very small business has been done in Tsaitles during the interval at prices showing a slight decline. Coarse silks are neglected. Hand Filatures.—Only one or two transactions are recorded. Steam Filatures.—Are quiet. Yellow Silk.—A moderate business has been done for India. Tussah Filatures.—A fair business has been done at undermentioned prices.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 3rd October, 1907, states:—Another week has passed without any appearance of a demand or improvement whatsoever, the market remaining in a state of utter stagnation, and the dealers are quite as much at a loss to account for the position of affairs as any one. They are quiet ready to admit that according to their advices trade in Manchuria is at present completely disorganised, as can well be imagined. It looks, therefore, very improbable that business will be placed on a proper basis for some months to come. Meanwhile the advices we mentioned last week which had been received from Newchwang stopping further shipments have been amply confirmed, little or nothing in the way of Piece Goods and Yarn being shipped to that port at present. Tientsin is taking a little from second hand holders here, but shipments thence have shown a great falling off the last few weeks. Chefoo and Kiaochow have done fairly well comparatively, but Hankow is our best customer this year. This is attributed to the more settled position of the popular currency, copper cash, now that the prejudice shown at first against the 10 cash coins has been overcome and they are being freely handled as the medium of exchange. It is to be hoped that this more satisfactory state of affairs will not be upset by the attempts that are being made in the capital to introduce a gold coinage. That and other reforms and changes are still keeping the country in a state of suspense and consequently unrest. In some parts Boxer uprisings are reported, Missions destroyed and missionaries actually murdered, while others have had to fly for their lives, showing the desperate straits to which the population in some parts of the country have been reduced. The crops almost all over the country are excellent, but the benefits deriving therefrom cannot be realised for some time after the harvests, which are now in full swing. Meanwhile on the market here mischievous rumours have been circulated impugning the credit of some of the most prominent members of this trade, evidently with the object of 'bearing' the market. Unfortunately this has caused not a little uneasiness in Native banking circles and increased the tendency to curtail credit even more than has been done of late, so that altogether importers are not having a happy time. In one or two quarters some forward business for next season is reported again; but as a rule home prices are still considered too high, even for the very laudable purpose of keeping old chops going. The Manchester market is in rather an uncertain position. In

some classes of goods it has been possible to place small orders at almost current rates here, while others are still five to ten per cent. out, or even more. As an indication of what manufacturers have to contend against now yarns are being used for other purposes than weaving into cloth, and one large spinning company has sold the whole of their production for six months ahead to a Continental house, showing how the scarcity of yarns the weavers are complaining of is helped to come about, and in this case it is the best Egyptian spinings, and thus the decline in cotton is counteracted. The Liverpool market has fluctuated slightly, declining at first to 6.60d., recovering to 6.72d., down yesterday to 6.87d., with "futures" at 6.18d. and to-day to 6.64d. for Mid American, while the price for Egyptian has receded to 10 1/4. The export of Plain Cottons last month to Hongkong and China was only 21 million yards, making 275,000,000 yards against 318,000,000 yards for the corresponding nine months last year. We have not heard of any fresh business in New York, or even quotations. The Cotton quotations are 10.83 cents for December, 11.00 cents for January, and 11.28 cents for March option. The condition of the crop at the close of September is returned as 67.7 against 71.7 last year, and even that is more favourable than was expected. As regards forward business the dealers here have experienced the evils of buying too far ahead and are now disposed to act more warily. Even with fancy makes, which require time to manufacture, they are not prepared to place orders as yet for the Spring trade, preferring to wait for the next few weeks to see how clearances go on. This is presumably because they do not feel at all sure on what lines the demand is likely to run, the business becoming much more changeable and complicated than it used to be. The Indian Yarn market has ruled very quiet, importers being undersold by native holders. In all, quite a fair quantity must have changed hands, the greater proportion consisting of what the dealers bought on speculation, over and above their orders, a few weeks ago. Japanese and local spinings are weak and drooping. Native Cotton is coming freely to market and values are declining. There is some buying for export, but it is not very brisk.

From Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s Report dated Shanghai, October 3rd, 1907:—Business for the Yangtze market has continued upon a fair scale during the interval and resales for forward arrival in English 10-lb. shirtings under established chops have been made to the extent of about 900 bales in the past few days, while 12-lb. 36-in. goods of both common and medium qualities have shared to some extent in the demand. Beyond these transactions the market has been somewhat quiet and stock holders have been unable to establish higher values than those ruling a week ago. For Newchwang, the demand for American Sheetings, reported in our last week's issue, has ceased, ostensibly owing to the second shipment that has been sent up during the past few days, having received a somewhat cool reception, but presumably the real cause of this sudden cessation of demand from an outlet which usually exhibits a certain amount of desire for supplies at this season, is due to a market rumour of "tight money" owing to want of liquid assets in the case of an important dealer of unquestionable standing and stability. Statistically, the position of American sheetings is apparently righting itself but slowly, the stock on hand being still 2,000,000 pieces, while the offtake has not been of late keeping up to the normal quantity. This latter should average over 65,000 pieces weekly, which has been the usual rate of delivery over the period from the beginning of 1901 to date, but no doubt Japanese makes, which have been sent to Manchuria at the rate of 3,000 bales monthly for some time past and placed on that market irrespective of cost of production, have in part accounted for the lesser offtake. It is stated that these Japanese consignments are to be discontinued for the present owing to the heavy loss which has been incurred over them, and the continued high level of cotton is likely now to deter them for some little time to come from competing in sale against the existent stocks of American sheetings which were laid down at an average of less than 4 1/4d. Cotton.—With regard to the new crop in America we learn from private telegraphic advices that the American Agricultural Bureau reports the condition on the 2nd instant as 67.7 against 71.6 for last year's crop at the same time, and 68.4 which is the average over the last 14 years. This report is stated to be better than the market expected.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 3rd October,

1907, states:—Gallnuts.—Quotations are firm for Usual Gallnuts. Little doing. Lower prices may be looked for in the near future. Cowhides.—Season closed. Tobacco.—Sample bales have now been forwarded and business is expected to result in a month's time. Feathers.—Good demand. Supplies small. Cotton.—The weather continues to be an ideal one for the crop and in consequence prices declined fully a tael per picul. Nevertheless there is little business, as the American Market is weak and spinners prefer to wait. Tallow.—The market continues very quiet. Wood Oil.—Market unchanged. No business reported. Strawbraid.—There is some demand for fine white braids for the American market and a few sales have been made in Shanghai White. Tussocks are well represented and can be bought now about 20 per cent. below the prices of two months ago. Wool.—Sheep's.—Little business doing. Market easier. Antimony.—The tendency is towards higher prices.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 11th October, 1907.—We have no improvement to report in the amount of business transacted. The week has ruled very dull, but rates have been fairly well maintained and several of the smaller stocks continue in demand without finding sellers. At the time of writing the slump in sterling exchange has assisted the stagnation that has been ruling so long, and although a lower rate of exchange should in the ordinary course of things tend to a rise in the rates of shares, more especially in Banks, operators seem inclined to mark time at the moment, and to await further developments. Exchange on London, T/T, 2/1 1/4 on Shanghai 73 1/2. BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled steady at quotations but with no business to report. The London rate has fallen to £77 10s. At time of closing shares could in all probability be obtained at quotations. Nationals remain unchanged and without any reported business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been enquired for during the week, but no shares appear to be available and the market closes steady at quotation. North Chinas have been placed at Tls. 75, closing steady at that rate. China Traders and Yangtzes continue without business. Cantons continue with sellers at 270, after steadying a little in the middle of the week. This latter Company has issued its yearly report, which shows an amount for division for the 1906 account of \$486,959.27, which the General Agents and the Consulting Committee propose to deal with as follows: To pay a dividend of \$20 per share, absorbing \$200,000 and to carry forward the balance of \$286,959.27 to the formation of an account to be called the Underwriting Suspense account, which account it is proposed to augment by adding \$115,000 to it from the reserve fund, making the suspense account \$401,959.27 and leaving the reserve fund at \$1,560,000.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have again changed hands at \$300, closing steady at that rate. Chins remain weak, and without business at \$86, sellers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue quiet at 27 1/4, with sellers, but offers at lower rates, both for cash and forward meet with no response. Indos remain with sellers at quotations and without business. China Manilas are still unprocurable at \$15, holders asking higher rates. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—No change or business to report.

MINING.—Raub has improved during the week, and have changed hands at 19 1/4 and 9 1/4, closing steady at the latter rate. The crushing for the last month was 1,100 oz. odd. Chinese Engineerings have continued quiet with no business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—We have no business to report under this heading, but rates have ruled steady. Shanghai reports a drop in Shanghai Docks to 75, and in Hong-kew Wharves to 210.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hong-kong Lands have ruled steady at 96, but we have no sales to report. Hotels continue with buyers at 100, but sellers still hold for higher rates. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined to 60 in Shanghai, and Internationals improved to 55. Other Cottons remain unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos have improved during the week to 10, after sales at 9½ and 1½, the market closing with further buyers at the last rate. Cements have improved to 11½ with sales and further buyers. China Lights, Dairy Farms, Watsons, China Providents and Peak Tramways have all changed hands and close steady at quotations, and Ropes and Electrics are still enquired for without bringing any shares on the market. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	{ \$125	{ \$647½
	{ \$125	{ \$610
		Ln. £77.10
		Ln. £76 new i.
National B. of China	28	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$8½
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$8, sales & buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$8.90, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 60, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$10½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 55
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 287½
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$18, sales & sel
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$67½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$100, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 75, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 210
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$11½, sales & buy.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$210	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14½, sales & buy.
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$240, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$25, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$270, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$86, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$300, sales
North China	\$25	Tls. 75, sales
Union	\$100	\$780, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$170
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$96
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$10½
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$86 sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 101
West Point Building	\$50	\$48
Mining—		
Charbonnages	For. 250	\$470, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$9½, buyers
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$12, (new) buy.
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$98, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$87½
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$27½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	{ \$41, Prefd., sel.
		{ \$29, Defd., sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	44/-
Star Ferry	\$10	\$21
Do. New	\$5	\$10, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$22, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$6, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$2½
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11, sales
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending 8th October, 1907, states:—The share market for the past week has again been very quiet, and there is nothing of interest to record beyond a sharp fall in the price of Wharves, the last business quoted being Tls. 220 for December. The T. T. on London to-day is 3/0½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. The second call has now been paid on the new issue, and the new and old shares are quoted with a difference of \$10. The present quotations being \$650 for the old shares and \$640 for the new. Insurance.—A small business has been done in the North-China Insurance shares at Tls. 74. The market has been quiet in all the other Insurance Stock. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas were wanted at Tls. 32 for the preferred and Tls. 22 for the deferred, but since the close of the Settlement no business has been done, and the quotation is now Tls. 32 preferred and Tls. 21 deferred nominal. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd. Shares have been dealt in at Tls. 46 and the market closes with sellers at Tls. 45. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ltd. No business reported. Shares are quoted Tls. 77 nominal. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. The market opened at Tls. 222 cash, and Tls. 228 Dec. and gradually fell, till at the close business has been done at Tls. 220 for December. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—A small lot of Kaipings changed hands at Tls. 15½. Lands.—A fair number of shares were placed on the market at Tls. 100. At the close there are buyers at Tls. 101. An operation is reported in Anglo-French Lands at Tls. 101. Industrial.—Business is reported in Ewos at Tls. 61 cash, and Tls. 63½ December. International Cottons. Business is reported at Tls. 57 and Tls. 57½ December. Shanghai Pulp & Paper Co. A quotation has been made in these shares of Tls. 66 cash. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats. The market for Langkats has been quieter, business being reported at Tls. 332, Tls. 333½, Tls. 335 cash, Tls. 336½ and Tls. 347½ December, closing with sellers for cash at Tls. 336, and Tls. 347½ December. Shanghai Sumatras. No business is reported. The quotation is Tls. 116 cash. Telephones. A fair business has been done at Tls. 58 cash. Stores and Hotels.—There are buyers of Hall and Holtz Shares at \$21, of Weeks & Co. Shares at \$21. An operation has been reported in Moutries at \$38. Loans and Debentures.—A large business has been done during the past week at somewhat higher than quotation rates, but the business was not quoted.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, October 14th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	262½
Credits 4 months' sight	268
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	213½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	5½
Credits, 60 days' sight	51½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	155½
Bank, on demand	156½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	155½
Bank on demand	156½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	74½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	102
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	102½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	11 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	125½

ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	3½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	3½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	70
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.15
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$50.00
BAR SILVER, per oz	23½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$4.81 discount.
	10 " "	5.27 " "
Hongkong	20 " "	4.20 " "
"	10 " "	5.00 " "

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 4th October.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is about the same as that of the preceding fortnight. From Saigon to this, a fair number of medium sized carriers taken up at 12/13 cents per picul; to Philippines, 2 more fixtures at 20 cents per picul; to North Coast Java, 18 cents; to Japan, no inquiry. From Bangkok to this, nothing doing. From North Coast Java to Hongkong, 28 cents nominally. From Newchwang to Canton, five steamers closed at 22 cents for part cargoes. Coal freights are weak. From South Japan (Coal) ports to Hongkong, \$1.45 last; to Singapore, \$1.70; to Penang, \$1.90; to Canton, \$2.10 per ton. Monthly charters. The *Quarta* has been closed for 12 months for Java trade. The following are the settlements:—

On Sang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.
Henrik Jensen—Norwegian steamer, 2,960 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.
Hild—Norwegian steamer, 719 tons, Wakamatsu to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.
Tjimali—Dutch steamer, 2,470 tons, Mororan to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.
Phuyen—French steamer, 1,293 tons, Labuan to Hongkong, \$1.75 per ton.
Nanchang—British steamer, 1,044 tons, Newchwang to Canton (16,000), 22 cents per picul.
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Newchwang to Canton (16/20,000), 22 cents per picul.
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Newchwang to Canton (20,000), 22 cents per picul.
Kueiyang—British steamer, 1,044 tons, Newchwang to Canton (18/20,000), 22 cents per picul.
Carl Diederichsen—German steamer, 774 tons, Haiphong to Canton, \$1.60 per ton.
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Iloilo to Ningpo and/or Tientsin (32,000), 30/35 cents per picul.
Clara Jensen—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to 1 port Philippines, 20 cents per picul.
Fri—Norwegian steamer, 859 tons, Saigon to 1/2 ports Philippines, 20 and 23 cents per picul.
Spir—Norwegian steamer, 870 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Standard—Norwegian steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Ulv—Norwegian steamer, 884 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Bourbon—French steamer, 907 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Laertes—British steamer, 1,514 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.
Taiwan—British steamer, 1,043 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,148 tons, monthly, 12 months. private terms.

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez)—Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload, Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo. Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS.

- 3, Pheumpenh, British str., from Saigon.
- 4, Ca herine Apoar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
- 4, Devawongse, German str., from Hoihow.
- 4, Taming, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Hupeh, British str., from Hoihow.
- 4, Levanzo, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 4, Profit, Norwegian str., from Moji.
- 4, Sungkiang, British str., from Cebu.
- 5, Antilochus, British str., from Tacoma.
- 5, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Persia, British str., from San Francisco.
- 5, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Sikh, British str., from Keelung.
- 5, Standard, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 5, Taikosan Maru, Jap. str., from Kuchinotzu.
- 5, Ujina Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
- 5, Vorwaerts, German str., from Macao.
- 6, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 6, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
- 6, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., from Seattle.
- 7, Antenor, British str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
- 7, Chowtai, German str., from Swatow.
- 7, Hue, French str., from K. C. Wan.
- 7, Jason, British str., from Singapore.
- 7, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 7, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Swatow.
- 7, Paoting, British str., from Swatow.
- 7, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 7, Sexta, German str., from Saigon.
- 7, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
- 7, S. v. Langkat, Dut. str., from Polo Sambu.
- 7, Wakamiya Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
- 7, Wesang, British str., from Wuhu.
- 8, Knivaberg, German str., from Macao.
- 8, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 9, Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.
- 9, China, Austrian str., from Trieste.
- 9, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
- 9, Goeben, German str., from Yokohama.
- 9, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 9, Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
- 9, Namur, British str., from Yokohama.
- 9, Nichibei Maru, Jap. str., from Wakamatsu.
- 9, Nore, British str., from London.
- 9, Swanley, Brit. str., from Ching-wan-tao.
- 9, Taiwan, British str., from Saigon.
- 10, Changehow, British str., from Tientsin.
- 10, Fooksang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 10, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
- 10, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
- 10, Keemun, British str., from Liverpool.
- 10, Kjeld, Norwegian str., from Samarang.
- 10, Neptune, British str., from Kuchinotzu.

October—

DEPARTURES.

- 3, Courtfield, British str., for Durban.
- 3, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Samarang.
- 4, Anghin, German str., for Swatow.
- 4, Chiynen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Christian Michelsen, Norw. str., for Moji.
- 4, Delhi, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
- 4, Drufer, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
- 4, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Looksun, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Macduff, British str., for Singapore.
- 4, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
- 4, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
- 5, Chunsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Delta, British str., for Europe, &c.
- 5, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
- 5, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
- 5, Saint George, British str., for Cavite.
- 5, Zafro, British str., for Manila.
- 6, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 6, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.
- 6, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 6, Sikh, British str., for New York.
- 6, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
- 6, Hokuto Maru, Jap. str., for Sourabaya.
- 6, Verwaerts, German str., for K. C. Wan.
- 7, Hunan, British str., for Iloilo.
- 8, Antenor, British str., for Singapore.
- 8, Gregory Apoar, Brit. str., for Singapore.
- 8, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Heim, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Hupeh, British str., for Hoihow.
- 8, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

- 8, Kwongsang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 8, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 8, S. van Langkat, Dut. str., for Palembang.
- 8, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 8, Wakamiya Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
- 9, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Hue, French str., for K. C. Wan.
- 9, Skrumstad, Norw. str., for Newchwang.
- 9, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 10, Changeha, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Goeben, German str., for Europe, &c.
- 10, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 10, Jason, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Kasato Maru, Japanese str., for Karatau.
- 10, Namur, British str., for Singapore.
- 10, Nore, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Roon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Sungkiang, British str., for Cebu.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Capt. P. H. Lapelugoe.
- Per *Jacob Diederichsen*, from Pakhoi, &c., Dr. Tompsen.
- Per *Shoshu Maru*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell.
- Per *China*, from Trieste and Singapore, Messrs. Müller and M. Siebele.
- Per *Yochow*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. and Miss Kliene, and Dr. Mitchell.
- Per *Taming*, from Manila, Lieut. A. M. Macnal, Messrs. R. Looney, R. Romos, Sam Fowler and E. J. Ferguson.
- Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Hurst, Dr. and Mrs. Gill Phelps, Miss H. Gordon, Major Jolin Mellis, Messrs. B. L. Bindette, O. V. Corria, F. H. Weinscheil, M. S. Arendt and C. Saico.
- Per *Namur*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. C. M. Weld; from Foochow, Mr. Tanaka; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. E. Staples, Capt. Mrs. and Master Hickey; for London, from Shanghai, Mrs. J. E. Williams, Mrs. Houston and infant, Mrs. Colley & infant, Miss A. C. Ware, and Mr. Wm. Sob; from Yokohama, Mr. Murray, Mrs. Macdonald, Misses Wilson and Melhish.
- Per *Roon*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Messrs. Emil Stiff and Aug. Budzinski; from Southampton, Mrs. G. Andrews, Messrs. A. Chapman, W. J. Butterfield, Chas. H. Fittock, Thomas Lowery, Frank Allen and J. Wiltshire; from Genoa, Misses Thorinolen, Hollesen and E. Sineins, Capt. G. Wilcke, Messrs. Hans B. Lutz, S. Guggenheim, Robt. W. Mearns, Paul Schuppisser, Th. Petersen, P. E. Valtarta, H. Ekershoff, G. Eifert, E. Rnanff, W. Pawlitz, Eng. Schwarz and R. Brockmüller; from Peking, Dr. Pattiche, Mrs. M. Eck, and Mr. Cheat Pokkhai; from Singapore, Dr. Wagner, Rev. Cosos, Mrs. Yamada, Messrs. E. Cameron, Hans Zaepernick, G. Hering, Delaney and S. Nakaniski.
- Per *Goeben*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Peter, Dr. and Mrs. Posthuma, Mrs. M. Atwood, Mrs. Cäcilie Aagaard, Major Lewis, Lieut. K. Dewar, Messrs. C. F. A. Herning, Fred. Leister and B. J. Entee; from Nagasaki, Mrs. W. J. Humphreys, Mrs. Tochter, Mrs. Grossmann, Messrs. T. Jshizu, S. and T. Tanaka, H. Joshioku, S. Murata, M. Mizutani and K. Muraoka; from Shanghai, Mrs. Longuet, Mrs. Marie J. Steele, Mrs. S. Roth and child, Mrs. A. Roth and child, Col. W. P. Biddle, Messrs. Krauss, E. W. Bauokham, Dame, Antonio Manuel, Williams, G. Marcomal, J. R. Bates, T. F. Sachee and N. M. Thomas.
- Per *Nore*, from London, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Bell, Mrs. R. Davies and 2 children Mrs. and 2 Misses Packham, Miss Massey, Messrs. P. M. B. Lake, E. Morley, A. Woodley, Mulpolland, and Cochrane and infant, for Manila, Mr. W. E. Brown; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Kilner, Mr. and Mrs. Meathrel and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. Watson, Mrs. Hall, child and infant, Mrs. Soady, Misses E. W. Heron and C. Pearce, Dr. C. M. Cole, Messrs. R. Birne, Bonface, C. W. Porley, J. Watson, Wm. Gibb, Jeavons, C. F. Shackelot, G. T. Williams, R. H. Newman and E. H. Robert; for Yokohama, Mr. and Miss H. Dare and governess, Mrs. Bell and infant, from Port Said, for Yokohama, Miss L. King; from Penang, for Shanghai, Major Soady.

Per *Chingtu*, from Australia via Ports, Mrs. Baring and infant, Mrs. Coon and son, Mrs. Hall, Miss Ellens Rays, Judge Fenell, Messrs. Peny, North, Ramney, Hogan, Bellini, McCaill and Newman.

Per *Persia*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Nell, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Taylor, Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Manley, Mrs. A. J. Gordon and amah, Miss M. Jamison, Miss M. I. Young, Miss Jean Gordon, Capt. H. Leube, Lt. S. C. Edmondson, Master W. Manley, Master A. Gordon, Messrs. Edmond Masarel, Ernest Masarel, A. Ternynck, H. Knauber, S. P. Pride, B. R. Wyckoff and W. W. Payne, and Miss Dorothy Lynch.

Per *Kaga Maru*, from Seattle via Ports, Mr. and Mrs. R. Doshalled, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Goob, Capt. and Mrs. Price and infant, Major and Mrs. Ketsall, Major and Mrs. Jones and child, Mrs. B. A. Pearson, Mrs. Williamson and 2 children, Mrs. Wakefield, Mrs. Jeffery, Lieut. D. Periwai, Lieut. J. Kervan, Messrs. N. H. Symont, D. Maden, Vigg. Catling, John Songa, Martina, K. Nakagawa and T. Yamada.

DEPARTED.

Per *Persia*, from Hongkong, for San Francisco, Misses Aylmer Daru and N. Dare, Messrs. J. C. Lowe, Sam Fowler, A. V. Correa, Harold Dare, Dorabjee and Thos. L. Helm.

Per *Zafro*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. F. Stahl, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Nell, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Lynch, Mrs. A. Edwards, Mrs. Eustaquia Bingzon, Miss Dorothy Lynch, Capt. Harman Zeube, Lt. S. C. Edmondson, Master W. Stahl, Master Pedro Bingzon, Master Fernando Caida, Messrs. M. Ocampo, J. A. Remedios, Benn Fell A. H. Touhy, S. B. Price, W. W. Payne, H. Knauber and B. R. Wyckoff.

Per *Manila*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mrs. Geo. Andrews and 3 children, Major Robt. W. Mearns, Messrs. S. Guggenheim, Hans Lutz, Paul Schuppisser and G. P. Rannuz; for Sydney, Rev. Pearson, Messrs. A. Ternynck, F. Masarel and F. Masarel; for Melbourne, Miss Marie Y. Steele; for New Guinea, Misses M. Yeki and Senemus, Capt. Wiecke, Messrs. Hans Zueperink, W. Pawlitz, E. Schwarz, E. Stiff, K. Brockmüller, Aug. Budzinski, H. Scherthoff and G. Eifert.

Per *Roon*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Sinpakfan, Messrs. H. Hursthouse, O. Fingsam, H. T. Gray, A. E. Paine, G. T. Fobel, Mariz, F. Pollack, B. Lichtig, F. D. Barretto, F. Jacob, E. E. Bullerok, A. Berthois, Collof and Lowery; for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Herala, Messrs. F. W. Warre, F. Fukuda and Tschetohelnski; for Kobe, Mrs. Stocker; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Rollinson, Messrs. A. Vincent Kemp and Th. M. Marburg.

Per *Goeben*, from Hongkong, for Hamburg, &c., Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Bune, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cartmann, Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. M. Imbert, Mr. and Mrs. Posthuma, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Pheljs, Mr. and Mrs. Schultz and child, Mr. and Mrs. Oberleutnant, Dr. and Mrs. Masao and children, Mrs. and Miss Ramsay, Mrs. Garcia and family, Mrs. Yeugi Koniso, Mrs. Rowe, Mrs. M. J. Steele, Misses Brent, H. S. Hulawit and L. Nash, Capt. Björnsagaard, Capt. Pabren, Major Millia, Lt.-Col. H. H. Johnston, Lieut. Luigi Ornati, Messrs. W. Burchard, W. Burchard, jr., J. F. Brinckmann, Varino Bernier, Bandol, Bérigny, L. D. Brown, Cross, S. S. Chips, J. van der Eyken, Engelhardt, Henry Evers, Winfried Freudenberg, Oscar Feihl, Rittmeister Frans Grossmann, Herm. Gehri, Hustedt, Hoerning, Hoffand, G. Heymann, J. S. Hyda, W. J. Ingledew, Franz Jeagly, Gustav Kerna, Gutsbesitzer Krüger, J. G. Kniesche, Viggo Kaoling, H. Kempf, F. Klammer, Komoto, H. Kasahara, Hans Kugel, Krube, H. J. Kennard, Assessor Heine, Lehmkuhl, Fr. Leister, E. C. T. Kok van Leuwen, A. Moody-Stuart, Kurt Müller, W. Nidwas, J. A. Nieuwenhins, Francisco Poggi, Panaka, Panabe Sam, Rumpf, Edwin Spooner, Rittmeister Freiherr von Solemacher, Sturmeggger, De Stürler, Charles Shad, Weinschenck and Werner.

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